THE MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK

ANNUAL REPORT 2011



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THE MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK ANNUAL REPORT 2011



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27 E 39th Street New York, NY 10016 www.mciny.org In 2011 the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York (MCINY) celebrated its twentieth anniversary. Its foundation in 1991 arose from the need for a cultural diplomacy instrument that would generate communication bridges to some of the most prestigious institutions of New York.

Through its cultural activities and exchanges, the Institute aims to present the best of Mexico's image, to continue to be a vibrant and integral part of New York's vast cultural scene, and to be an authentic expression of Mexico.

The promotion of cultural activities has also allowed the Consulate General of Mexico to strengthen the communication with Mexicans living in the tri-state area. As the presence of the Mexican community is growing, we are witnessing a fascinating expansion of the cultural traditions being staged in several areas of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. The Mexican population has maintained itself true to its strong identity, through the vast array of traditions which most certainly travel across borders. These cultural manifestations are naturally enriched through the contact with New York's unique context, resulting in extraordinary art expressions. Throughout these past two decades Mexican culture has become, without a doubt, a key component in the city's rich cultural fusion, constantly giving back to its nurturing exchange cycle.

The MCINY now faces a big challenge this year: to acquire a venue of its own. The pursual of this project is to allow this major instrument to continue with its cultural and artistic endeavors, and to keep on working towards being a solid Mexican presence in New York.

I have given the promotion of culture a privileged space in my agenda and have attended most of the activities presented by the MCINY. I am amazed at the great number of Mexican artists in New York that have contributed to the richness of our arts and culture with their work and talents.

All of the success that the Mexican Cultural Institute has achieved in these past twenty years would not have been possible without the committed support of a very special group of people that have proven to be very good friends of Mexico: the members of the Institute's Board of Directors. With their guidance and ideas, the Institute has strengthened its impact more and more each day.

I also wish to acknowledge all of the distinguished New York institutions that have enthusiastically and passionately supported our projects. Their collaboration has been crucial in achieving our goals.

A special recognition goes to Amb. Cecilia Jaber, Director General of Educational and Cultural Cooperation at the Mexican Foreign Affairs Ministry and the valuable team she leads.

And last, but not least, I wish to thank the intensive day-to-day work of Acting Director Maria Elena Cabezut and her colleagues: Laura Ramírez Rasgado, Aldo Sánchez, Apolonia Torres, Jimena Lara, Marina Diez-Canedo, and Carolina Ferreras.

CARLOS M. SADA
Consul General of Mexico in New York and
Honorary President of the Board



2011 has been both an exciting and gratifying year, as we celebrated the 20th Anniversary of The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York (MCINY).

To mark this special date, we put together a commemorative video that shows how much impact the Institute has had in this great city throughout the past two decades. Our Consul General, our Ambassador to the US, former Executive Directors, artists, collaborators, and friends, share with us their comments and memories of the Institute's history. A copy of the DVD is enclosed; we hope you enjoy it!

In the following pages you will go through the 88 activities that the Institute supported this year. These include 21 in visual arts; 10 in performing arts; 14 music events; 16 film-related activities; 15 literary events; 7 special events, 3 in the field of gastronomy; and 2 related to the 20th Anniversary of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York.

We want to acknowledge the tremendous collaborative efforts of the prestigious institutions that we have partnered with this year: The Americas Society, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Museum of Modern Art, Rockefeller Estate, Guggenheim Museum, Neuberger Museum, Queens Museum, Bronx Museum, Hispanic Society of America, El Museo del Barrio, School of Visual Arts, CUNY, Columbia University, NYU, Instituto Cervantes, King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center, McNally-Jackson Books, Cinema Tropical, Gabarron Foundation, Mano a Mano, and Casa Mezcal, among many others. We were also participants in the New York Film Festival, Latinbeat Film Festival, the Annual Conference of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters, PINTA Art Fair, PEN World Voices Festival of International Literature, New York Art Book Fair, and Lincoln Center's Out-of-Doors-Festival. As in previous years, Celebrate Mexico Now and Hola Mexico Film Festival were co-organized by the Institute.

In 2011, Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer presented the MCINY with a proclamation, honoring its commitment to "generating awareness of the richness, dynamism and cultural diversity of Mexico as a democratic, plural and creative nation", and declaring October 17th "Mexican Cultural Institute Appreciation Day". We are thrilled to share this recognition with you.

I wish to give a special thanks to Carlos Manuel Sada, Consul General of Mexico in New York, for his ongoing dedication to the Institute, which has been instrumental in continuing to strengthen our goals in every aspect.

Finally, we would also like to express our gratitude to our Board members and to Amb. Cecilia Jaber, Director General of Educational and Cultural Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico and her entire team. None of the Institute's activities would have been possible without their invaluable support.

MECabezut

MARÍA ELENA CABEZUT

Acting Director
The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York

MISSION OF THE INSTITUTE

The mission of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York is to strengthen the image of Mexico and foster a better understanding of our country through its art and culture.

Our objectives include making sure that our activities have a high and lasting impact among all the multiethnic and multicultural communities in the New York City area. In addition, the Institute aims to generate interest among the Mexican communities in the Tri-State region by presenting Mexico's most relevant artistic expressions ranging from the Pre-Columbian period to contemporary art.



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A DTC

In today's global context, the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York is an invaluable tool to project the image of our country that we want the world to know.... The MCINY has been in constant growth, projecting Mexican culture from very diverse perspectives... [New York] is where we need to be-with a very strong, very intense, and very convincing presence.

Mexico is a global cultural superpower. Cultural promotion provides
us with a key instrument of soft power, of public diplomacy...
Cultural promotion plays a crucial role in building bridges of mutual
understanding... Our gratitude goes to all of New York's cultural
institutions who have been travel companions throughout our journey

as allies, co-sponsors, and organizers of exhibits, events,

Arturo Sarukhan Ambassador of Mexico to the United States

and other initiatives.

Carlos Manuel Sada Consul General of Mexico in New York



The Institute is an invaluable tool, an praiseworthy creation of the Mexican Government... The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has had the vision to see the Institute as an instrument worthy of its protection, and my hopes are that it continues to be considered as an invaluable tool of cultural diplomacy.... We have had the great privilege of associating with New York's most prominent cultural institutions.

Raúl J. Zorrilla Executive Director of the Institute (2007-2010) and Board Member

ISUAL ARTS







Newman Popiashvili Gallery March 4-April 2

The Newman Popiashvili Gallery opened their doors for **Artemio Narro** and **Rubén Gutiérrez**, in their two-person show exhibit *Sic Transit Gloria Mundi* or *Thus Passes the Glory of the World*.

The artists approached evil, corruption, power and entertainment in today's Mexican society with humor and parody.

One of the works created by Artemio and Rubén was a post apocalyptic landscape mural, comprised of film stills and resin sculptures of AK47's that were decorated with traditional Huichol bead work.

Artemio Narro is one of the founders of the alternative art space in Mexico City, *La Panadería*, and has exhibited his own work at Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico City; Queens Nails Annex, San Francisco; and Centre d'édition contemporaine, Geneva.

Rubén Gutiérrez has exhibited his works and curatorial projects in Mexico, USA, China, Europe and Latin America. He is the founder of Object Not Found, an independent non-profit space whose mission is to promote the knowledge and appreciation of contemporary art through research, production, and exhibition.

LIFE AS A PERFORMANCE



Left to right: Damián Siqueiros, Gustavo Ortega and Michael Barakiva.

Casa Mezcal

January 13-February 18

Las Bellas Artes curated *Life as a Performance*, an exhibit by award-winning artist Damián Siqueiros at Casa Mezcal, with the support of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York.

The Mexican photographer used the possibilities of his digital medium to blur the lines of reality and fantasy, creating images similar to Romantic paintings. *Life as a Performance* examined the impact of religion and society on interpersonal relationships, identity and perception. The exhibition creates a dialogue between the viewer and the image to bring questions to one's own identity.

The exhibit has also been shown in Mexico City and Montreal.



Works of Andrés Basurto

PULSE ART FAIR

Metropolitan Pavilion
March 3-6

The 63 exhibitors at the 2011 edition of PULSE, the leading art fair in the United States, consisted of a select group of leading and pioneering international galleries that presented works by premier contemporary artists along with emerging talents. Works included sculpture, photography, mixed-media, painting and more.

Antena Studio, of Mexico City, was one of the galleries showing at IMPULSE, a subsection of this art fair. The studio presented work by Andrés Basurto. The Mexican artist constructed skulls from shards of glass bottles that at one time held wine or beer. His work evoked the human skull and skeleton as a "container of the soul."

Basurto has exhibited extensively throughout Mexico, including the Museo Arocena, Torreón Coahuila; 3rd Biennale of Visual Arts, Cultural Institute of Yucatán, Mérida; the Museum of Art Carrillo Gil, Mexico City; and XII Biennale Rufino Tamayo, The Tamayo Museum of Contemporary Art, Mexico City. Basurto's work has been shown in the BP Portrait Award in London, England, Aberystwyth, Wales and Aberdeen, Scotland.



THE TRANSFORMATION OF BIOLOGICAL PRECEPTS INTO MENTAL CONCEPTS

P.J.S. ExhibitionsMarch 20-April 20

In *Transformation of Biological Precepts into Mental Concepts*, **Juandrés Vera** and **Fernando Villalvazo** used nature as a guide to help viewers reinterpret certain visual concepts through the use of rhetorical figures. The artists created exclusive pieces for P.J.S Exhibitions and included some of their past work. The exhibition was curated by Las Bellas Artes.

Fernando Villalvazo began showcasing exhibitions throughout Mexico in 1993. He is the recipient of the 2001 award for the 5th Binational exhibition Siqueiros-Pollock (Chihuahua-Texas) and has worked with Absolute Vodka, Hugo Boss, and Lucky Strike.

In 2003, Juandrés Vera became inspired by urban transport themes and began working on easel paintings. By 2007, he was creating ephemeral interventions, also known as street paintings, in the US, UK, Italy and Mexico.

DEATH NATURE: CONTEMPORARY MEXICAN PAINTING



May 13-15



Opening reception

Death Nature brought together the work of 5 emerging Mexican painters: Javier Areán, Lila Basulto, Javier Peláez, Rafael Rodríguez and Omar Rodríguez-Graham.

The exhibition began as an invitation for Omar Rodríguez-Graham to curate a group show of artists from Mexico. Instead, he proposed a symposium. The works exhibited represented an ongoing dialogue among the artists, all of whom are grappling with and complicating a seemingly straight-forward problem: the act of looking at the world and constructing an image from it.



Maria Elena Cabezut. Acting Director of the MCINY. Consul General Carlos M. Sada. Betsabeé Romero, and Brian Nissen

BETSABEÉ ROMERO: LÁGRIMAS NEGRAS / BLACK TEARS

Neuberger Museum

April 30-August 14

Betsabeé Romero: Lágrimas Negras/ Black Tears is a ten-year survey of one of Mexico's leading artists. Self-described as a "mechanic artist," Romero draws on Pre-Columbian iconography, colonial imagery, and popular culture to transform automobiles and their components into contemporary works of art. The artist's refashioned cars, carved tires, painted hoods, and incised mirrors explore tensions between local traditions and industrialized societies dominated by speed, mass production, and migration.

Awarded first prize in the 2006 Cairo Biennial, Betsabeé Romero has exhibited her work internationally and is included in the collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; The Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston; the Daros Collection, Zurich, Switzerland; and the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection, Mexico City.

Lágrimas Negras / Black Tears was originally curated by **Julián Zugazagoitia** for the Amparo Museum in Puebla and traveled to the Contemporary Museum of Monterrey and the San Ildefonso Museum, in Mexico. The exhibition was reorganized by **Patrice Giasson**, Neuberger Associate Curator of the Art of Americas.

Romero gave an exclusive tour of the exhibit which was followed by a video presentation featuring footage of the creation of two works made especially for the exhibition in collaboration with students and professors of the Purchase College School of Art and Design during a month-long residency.

The Consul General of Mexico in New York, Carlos M. Sada, and Brian Nissen were present for the opening reception.



TRACING THE UNSEEN BORDER

La MaMa Gallery May 8



Richard Mosse, Laredo, Texas (2008), Courtesy of the Artist and Jack Shainman Gallery

Tracing the Unseen Border is an exhibition that takes a look at the dynamics surrounding the border between Mexico and the United States. Each of the participating artists critically addressed questions about this imaginary line. Some as a representation of the actual physical space that separates both countries, unseen by a large part of the nation's populations.

Mexican artist **Tania Candiani** was selected, among several artists, to show her work and participate in a panel discussion. Candiani's unique perspective on New York City as an artist residing and working in Tijuana added to the program's depth. Other Mexican participating artists included **Sergio de la Torre**, **Ricardo González**, **M&X** and **Teresa Margolles**. The panel discussed the experience and issues that occur past the geographical location of the border and how they influence the work they make as artists in New York City.

BENT FESTIVAL

319 Scholes

June 23-25

Bent is an annual art and music festival celebrating circuit bending and its related creative practices such as DIY electronics, hardware, hacking, glitch, code bending, software art, and abstract video. For its 8th year anniversary, the Festival invited Mexican artist **Arcángel Constantini** and other artists from across the country and around the globe for three days of workshops, performances and exhibitions.

Constantini produces work of a marked ludic-experimental nature, strongly influenced by the chaotic processes of the city as reflected in the systematic use of error aesthetics. He explored the dynamics of visual and sound works, low-tech installations, propaganda action, hardware hacking, sound art and net art.

Constantini's work as an independent curator includes the development of the Museo Rufino Tamayo's Cyberlounge program in Mexico City. In 2002, he received the Rockefeller / MacArthur grant for New Media Production.



MIRRORS BY MOZA

AMH Industries

September 22-November 10

In her solo exhibition, curated by Anne Huntington, **Moza Saracho** introduced her way of seeing the world through large-scaled mirrored sculptures presented in five parts. The sculptures were meant to represent the reflection of truth, destiny, vanity, existence and moments.

Moza Sarcho, a contemporary artist based in Mexico City, received her MFA from Tisch School of the Arts, New York University and studied set design at Istituto Europeo di Design in Italy.







International Studio and Curatorial Program

April-July & August-November

Open studios: May 12-15 and November 3-5

Residency Program for Mexican Artists:

The participation of the Mexican artists in this program is the result of the collaboration between FONCA (National Fund for Culture and the Arts) and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York. Every year through an open call, a committee composed of art experts selects two artists to participate for a period of four months each at the ISCP residency program in New York City.

Artists are provided with round-trip transportation, a studio at ISCP, lodging at an apartment in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, as well as a stipend for materials and living expenses.

In 2011, the two selected artists were Ingrid Hernández and Eunice Adorno.

Open Studios:

ISCP hosts Open Studios twice a year for four days to give the public, art professionals and art enthusiast access to the program's artists and curators from around the world.

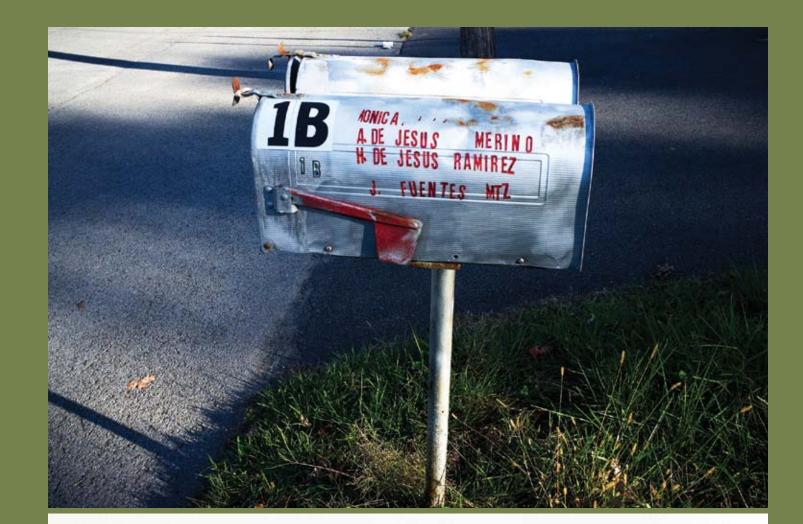
The exhibition presents recent artworks and projects by the participants in the residency program, providing an exclusive peek of the production, process, and personal achievements of 35 artists from about 20 countries.

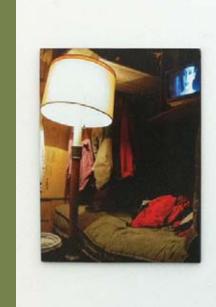
Every year approximately 3,000 visitors attend ISCP, including curators, gallerists, and the general public, giving resident artists the opportunity to network and showcase their work.

About the artists:

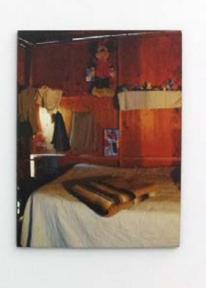
Ingrid Hernández (b. 1974) is an artist from Tijuana. She studied Sociology in the Baja California Autonomous University and a Masters in Environmental Management in Northern Border College. She was given the acquisition prize in the Contemporary Art University Biennial, (UABC, 2007) the "young creators" scholarship from the Culture and Arts National Fund (FONCA 2008-2009) and has exhibited her work in Paris, Moscow, Berlin and New York. For the ISCP, she presented interviews, photographs and research that explored different Mexican families residing in New York.

Eunice Adorno (b. 1982) is a photographer from Mexico City. Her work has appeared in various newspapers and magazines. In 2010 she won the award Premio Nacional de Periodismo Cultural Fernando Benitez and has been selected for the 2011 Joop Swart Master Class of World Press Photo Master Class. For the ISCP she developed projects that explored Mexican communities and issues of identity in New York.











MEXICAN RESTORERS AT KYKUIT

Rockefeller Estate

May 14-June 5

Kykuit, the Rockefeller residency at Sleepy Hollow, NY, is home to over one hundred masterpieces, including pieces by Braque, Picasso, Warhol, Brancusi and Calder, and over seventy sculptures made in the twentieth century that are displayed in the gardens.

The Rockefeller Brothers Fund in collaboration with the Mexican Cultural Institute invited two students from ENCRyM (Escuela Nacional de Conservación, Restauración y Museografía) and ECRO (Escuela de Conservación y Restauración de Occidente) to a three week residency at Kykuit.

During the three weeks, **Gabriela Mora** and **Ezequiel Romero** worked in the restoration of several artworks under the guidance of Sculpture Conservation Technician **Arnaldo Ugarte**. Consul General Carlos M. Sada traveled to Kykuit to meet the artists and look at their work.



Left: Ezequiel Romero and Gabriela Mora a the Rockefeller Estate



SANATORIUM

Guggenheim Museum

June 2-12

Invited by the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Mexican artist **Pedro Reyes** transformed a building in downtown **Brooklyn** into a temporary clinic, or sanatorium. Reyes' project was inspired by New Yorker's fascination with therapies that help them cope with hectic schedules, demanding lifestyle choices and complicated relationships. The artist combined the best of New York's therapy landscape with unexpected short, experimental treatments in two-hour windows.

Sanatorium explored Gestalt psychology, theater warm-up exercises, fluxus events, conflict resolution techniques, trust-building games, corporate coaching, psychodrama, and hypnosis.





Photos: The Museum of Hypothetical Lifetimes from Sanatorium, June 2-5 and 9-12 2011. Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, New York. Kristopher McKay

POSSIBLE WORLDS: PHOTOGRAPHY AND FICTION IN MEXICAN CONTEMPORARY ART

The Gabarron Carriage House Center for Arts

September 12- October 14

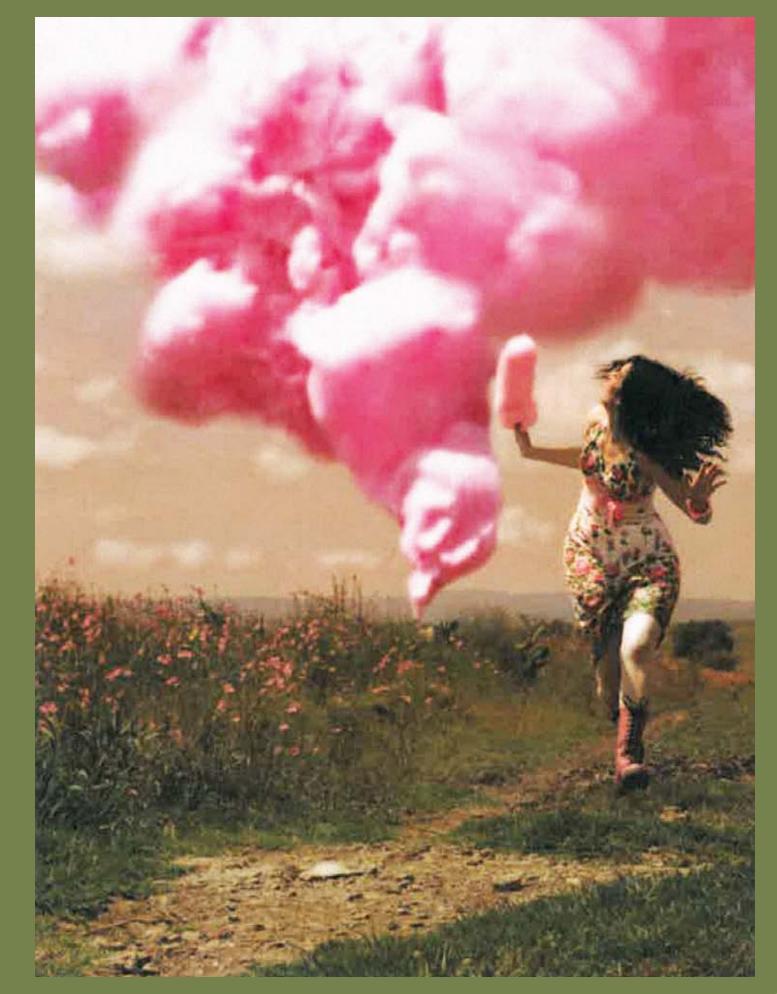
The Gabarron Foundation in New York co-presented with the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York *Possible Worlds: Photography and Fiction in Mexican Contemporary Art*, a travelling exhibition curated by art historian **Marisol Argüelles**. Invited by the Institute, Marisol travelled to New York to talk about how she had conceived this body of work. *Possible Worlds* examines the use of fiction in photography as a method for challenging the conventional boundaries that establish our physical world. Emerging from the artists' imaginations, the possible worlds were proposed as alternatives to our own reality. The exhibition was organized by the Art Museum of the Americas of the OAS and The Carriage House Center for the Arts.

Possible Worlds features the work of nine contemporary Mexican artists, represented by more than 50 individual pieces. These artists are part of a new generation of photographers who break away from traditional modes of photography, to explore this medium's potential as an outlet for the imagination. The exhibition's central theme is articulated in five distinct yet interwoven groups: Fables and Myths, Science and Fiction, Apocalypse, Ordinary Worlds, and Erased.

The participating artists were Mauricio Alejo, Alex Dorfsman, Kenia Narez, Ricardo Alzati, Daniela Edburg, Fernando Montiel, Katya Brailovsky, Rubén Gutiérrez and Damián Siqueiros.



Marisol Argüelles and Damián Siqueiros



Death by Cotton Candy by Daniela Edburg



TRAJINERA XÓCHITL

Queens Museum of Art September 24

Claudia Norman, Natalia Porter and Erwin Stephan-Otto

As part of the Celebrate Mexico Now Festival, Mexican artist Natalia Porter recreated the **Trajinera**, an iconic boat typical of Xochimilco-an area in Mexico City known for its canals and **chinampas**. These were the relics of an extensive lake and canal system that connected the settlements of the Valley of Mexico to Tenochtitlan, the capital of the Aztec Empire in the 15th century.

Porter developed this project with the help of Ramón Flores and Antonio Bergua, design students from the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana of **Xochimilco**. The students researched the design and construction techniques of these boats at the Gowanus Studio Space in Brooklyn with its director, Ben Cohen.

The Trajinera served as a platform for the discussion of issues concerning Mexico and New York. It was taken to the waters of Flushing Meadows Corona Park as part of the workshop.

Events:

A workshop in the Unisphere Gallery, led by artist Paolina Poras Sivolobova, where participants developed a performance to reenact life in the Aztec Empire, when Chinampas and Trajineras where an indispensible part of

A panel discussion at the Museum's Theater, led by urban planner Kaja Kühl, about water and the city. Experts in the field shared the history and relevance of Xochimilco and its chinampas. Participants in this event included Erwin Stephan-Otto, anthropologist specialized in the Ecological Rescue of Xochimilco; Kaja Kühl, urban planner and adjunct professor at Columbia University; Shama Perveen, Ph.D. Associate Research Scientist, Columbia Water Center; and Larry Beckardt, from the Department of Environmental Protection, NYU.

During the **Procession to the Trajinera**, participants gathered at the front of the Museum, where they were received by a group of traditional Aztec dancers who performed while they guided the group to the boat in Meadow Lake.

The daylong event finished with music and food where guests enjoyed traditional Mexican food and mariachi music.





The Traijnera at Flushing Meadows Corona Park



Photograph by Valentina Siniego

MEXITANOS

La Esquina Gallery
June 27-July 11

Photographer Valentina Siniego presented a series on the Romani gypsy community in Mexico. More than portraying the precarious nomadic existence, Siniego narrates through photographs her experience and complex relationship with them.

Valentina Siniego studied photography in Madrid (EFTI 2000-2002) and Anthropology in Mexico City (ENAH, Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia, 2007-2011). She has exhibited in Argentina, Mexico, Spain and the United States.



YVONNE VENEGAS

School of Visual Arts Amphitheater

Museum of Modern Art P.S.1 September 30 Yvonne Venegas at SVA

As part of the **Camera Club of New York** Lecture Series, **Yvonne Venegas** presented *The Most Beautiful Brides of Baja California*, a series of photographs exploring issues of gender and class structures, followed by a question and answer session with International Center of Photography Professor Allen Frame.

Venegas is a graduate of the certificate program at the ICP in New York and received her MFA at University of California. She has worked as a freelance photographer for the New York Times, SPIN and VIBE and has had her work published in Mexico City.

She was awarded top honors for this series at the prestigious 10th Annual Biennale of Photography, organized by the Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes in Mexico City. She also received the stART up Award from the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, and the San Diego Art Prize.



NEW YORK ART BOOK FAIR

MoMA PS1

September 30

The New York Art Book Fair is a leading annual event that showcases contemporary art books, catalogs, periodicals, and magazines. Each year, approximately three thousand visitors attend the fair.

The Mexican Cultural Institute hosted the stand **MX Editions** in collaboration with the **Carrillo Gil Museum** to promote work of independent editorials of art books in Mexico.

The Carrillo Gil Museum, LAST, Textofilia Ediciones, Easynoise, Alias and the Museo Universitario Arte Contemporáneo collaborated to promote alternative publishing houses in Mexico.



PINTA ART FAIR

7 W New York November 10-13

For several years, the fair organizers have invited representatives from the Mexican art scene to be part of this prestigious event.

PINTA exhibits quality works representative of abstract, concrete, neo-concrete, kinetic and conceptual art, as well as other contemporary art movements.

In 2011, PINTA showcased the following Mexican representatives: Ginocchio Gallery (Mexico City), Galería Enrique Guerrero (Mexico City) and Arte al Día México (magazine).





Pedro Reyes

Bronx Museum / The New School October 28-29

Beyond the Super Square: At the Corner of Art & Architecture presented the Architecture Challenge, Symposium and Modernism in the Bronx Bus Tour as part of their three-day conference dedicated to exploring the varied and dynamic exchanges between Latin America's vanguards of modern architecture and contemporary art.

The Architecture Challenge was created by Mexican artist **Pedro Reyes** and was held at the Bronx Museum of the Arts and the Vera List Center for the Art and Politics at the New School.

The Symposium brought together architects, artists, scholars, and urban planners for a daylong series of panels to explore the themes discussed in the conference. **José Castillo** and Pedro Reyes represented Mexico in the Symposium.







DIEGO RIVERA: MURALS FOR THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Museum of Modern Art

November 13, 2011 - May 14, 2012

For the first time in nearly 80 years, key works made for **Diego Rivera's** 1931 record breaking exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art were put on display for a seven month long exhibition. The exhibition, curated by Leah Dickerman, is a grand example of the many collaborations the Museum has had with Mexican artists and its excellent relationship with Mexico.

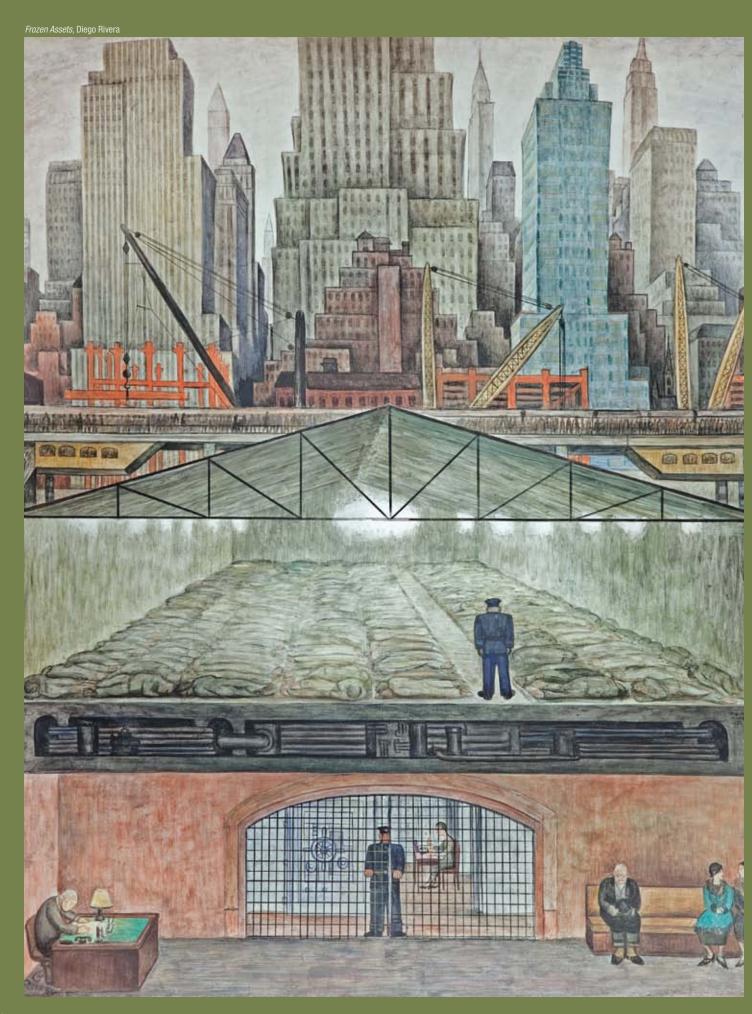
The portable murals, freestanding frescoes with bold images addressing the Mexican Revolution and the Great Depression in New York, themes still very much alive today, were displayed along with three working drawings, a prototype mural and smaller drawings, watercolors, and prints. The exhibition also included materials related to Rivera's infamous Rockefeller Center mural, a project that was discussed during the artist's residency at the MoMA. In addition to the exhibition, the Museum has organized several educational programs, panel discussions and special activities for adults and children.

Mezcal Pierde Almas was a proud sponsor of the spectacular opening attended by important figures such as Margarita Zavala, First Lady of Mexico; Arturo Sarukhan, Mexican Ambassador to the United States; Carlos M. Sada, Consul General of Mexico in New York; Guadalupe Rivera, daughter of Diego Rivera; Ignacio Deschamps, President and CEO of BBVA Bancomer; Glenn Lowry, Director of MoMA; Carlos Phillips Olmedo, Director of Dolores Olmedo Museum; and David Rockefeller.

The exhibition was made possible with the support of BBVA Bancomer, the National Council for Culture and the Arts (CONACULTA) and the Mexican Friends of Rivera. Additional support was provided by the Consulate General of Mexica and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York.

Murals for The Museum # Modern Art

Photographs by Armando Croda Top left: Glenn D. Lowry, MoMA Director; Leah Dickerman; Amb. Arturo Sarukhan; First Lady of Mexico Margarita Zavala; David Rockefeller; Guadalupe Rivera; Ignacio Deschamps; Carlos Phillips Olmedo; and Consul General Carlos M. Sada





FILMS / FILMS / NEW DIRECTORS





Lincoln Center / Museum of Modern Art March 23 – April 4

The Film Society of Lincoln Center and the Museum of Modern Art presented the film festival New Films / New Directors. Mexican filmmakers Natalia Almada, director of El velador (The Night Watchman, 2011), and Nicolás Pereda, director of El verano de Goliat (Summer of Goliath, 2010), showcased their movies in both venues and were present for Q&A sessions after the screenings.

The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York, Cinema Tropical and Women Make Movies hosted a cocktail reception at the Walter Reade Theatre in Lincoln Center in celebration of the Mexican directors.

El Velador is a film about Martin, a guardian angel, who watches over the extravagant mausoleums of some of Mexico's most notorious drug lords. El Verano de Goliat tells the story of Teresa, a woman seeking answers about her husband's disappearance only to encounter the bitterness of a whole town, where family members desert each other, soldiers intimidate residents, stories of mysterious deaths are frequent, and the sense of abandonment is constantly present.



Natalia Almada, Marisa Céspedes and Deputy Consul Ismael Naveja



María Elena Cabezut, Nicolás Pereda and Deputy Consul Ismael Naveja



Juan Carlos Rulfo and Gonzalo Casals at El Museo del Barrio

EN EL HOYO

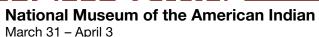
El Museo del Barrio February 2

Juan Carlos Rulfo presented his documentary *En el hoyo* (*In the Pit*, 2006) at El Museo del Barrio as part of a film series organized by the Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies of the City University of New York. The series showcased several films demonstrating the harsh labor conditions in many countries throughout the world. The film was followed by a Q&A session where Rulfo discussed the making of the documentary and the relationship he established with the workers he was filming.

En el hoyo is a portrait of the construction workers, male and female, involved in the building of the second deck of one of Mexico City's most transited freeways, El Periférico. Over the course of a year, Rulfo filmed the lives and his relationship with some of these workers.

The presence of Rulfo was made possible with the support of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York. *En el hoyo* won the **Grand Jury Prize** for an **International Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival**.

AMERICAN INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL



Chloe Campero and Ana Rosa Duarte



The National Museum of the American Indian presented several Mexican films in their 2011 Film Festival, *Mother Earth in Crisis*. The films included: *Ix tsana tiyat* (*Cry of the Earth*, 2007) by **Lucio Olmos**; *Voladora* (*A Flying Woman*, 2008) by **Chloe Campero**; *La pequeña semilla en el asfalto* (*The Little Seed in the Asphalt*, 2009) by **Pedro Daniel López**; *Auikanime* (*The One that is Hungry*, 2010) by *Pavel Rodríguez Guillén; Las de blanco* (*Dressed in White, 2008*) by *Aida Salas*; *Much'tal jedz* (*When We Speak, We do so Only Once*, 2009) by **Byrt Wamma**; and *El rio sigue corriendo* (*And the River Flows On*, 2010) by **Carlos Efraín Perez**.

Y el rio sigue corriendo takes a look at the construction of the hydro-electric dam called La Parota that has threatened to flood several of the Indigenous communities south of Acapulco. The audience responded to the struggles depicted on screen and congratulated Pérez on his work.

Duarte was chosen as one of the Festival's guest documentary selectors. In the end, 100 award-winning shorts, features, and documentaries were screened out of the more than 400 entries received.

The Mexican Cultural Institute made possible the participation of Ana Rosa Duarte, Mexican anthropologist and director Carlos Efraín Perez.

IN FOCUS: CINEMA TROPICAL





Video still from Trópico de Cánce

Founded by Carlos A. Gutiérrez (Mexico) and Monika Wagenberg (Colombia) in 2001, Cinema Tropical is one of the most important organizations promoting Latin American cinema in the United States today.

The Museum of Modern Art honored the work of Cinema Tropical and celebrated its 10th Anniversary by presenting In Focus: Cinema Tropical. The event featured a selection of acclaimed films from Latin America promoted by the organization which included the following Mexican films: *Toro negro* (*Black Bull*, 2005) by **Pedro González Rubio** and Trópico de cáncer (Tropic of Cancer, 2004) by **Eugenio Polgovsky**.

Trópico de Cáncer

2004. Directed by Eugenio Polgovsky. This powerful documentary is a meticulous account of the perilous conditions faced by a group of families living in the arid desert of San Luis Potosí, Mexico. In their quest for survival, they hunt animals to sell on the highway.

Toro Negro

2005. Directed by Pedro González-Rubio and Carlos Armella. The film delves into the life of Fernando Pacheco, a hapless young bullfighter who fights not in big arenas but at gatherings in small Mayan communities in the Yucatán Peninsula. Fernando is heartwarming and honest, but he's also an alcoholic, prone to violent outbursts and impulsive behavior.



Video still from Toro Negro

HOLA! MEXICO FILM FESTIVAL



Tribeca CinemasJune 2-4

The 2011 edition of the Hola Mexico Film Festival included eleven films this year. The festival was introduced by its Founder and Director Samuel Douek, and Maria Elena Cabezut, Acting Director of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York. The MCINY has been a main supporter of the Festival since its inauguration in 2008.

The New York premiere of *Saving Private Perez* (2011) was presented by director **Beto Gómez**, leading actor **Miguel Rodarte** and producers Fernando and Roberto Rovzar. A Q&A followed the screening. The opening event included the presence of director **Francesco Taboada** (*Tin Tan*, 2009) and renowned actor **Damián Alcazar** (*El infierno / Hell*, 2010 and Chicogrande, 2010).

After the screening, the MCINY hosted a reception attended by the Consul General Carlos M. Sada, who was present at several of the film premieres.

Films screened: *Presunto culpable* (*Presumed Guilty*, 2008) by Roberto Hernández and Geoffrey Smith; *Tin Tan* (2009) by Francesco Taboada; *Sin ella* (*Without Her*, 2010) by Jorge Colón; *El Infierno* (*Hell*, 2010) by Luis Estrada; *De la Infancia* (*From Childhood*, 2010) by Carlos Carrera; *Somos lo que hay* (*We Are What We Are*, 2010) by Jorge Michel Grau; *Chicogrande* (2010) by Felipe Cazals; *Te presento a Laura* (*Introducing Laura*, 2011) by Fez Noriega; *A Tiro de piedra* (*A Stone's Throw away*, 2010) by Sebastián Hiriart; and *Año Bisiesto* (*Leap Year*, 2010) by Michael Rowe.





Beto Gómez, Miguel Rodarte, Fernando an



TROPICHAT

King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center May 12

Damon Smith, Pedro Gonzalez Rubio, Paula Heredia and Carlos Gutierrez

Tropichat, an ongoing series that features conversations with renowned Latin American filmmakers, presented a talk with Argentine filmmaker Celina Murga (*Una semana solos / A week alone*, 2007) and Mexican filmmaker Pedro González-Rubio (*Alamar / To the Sea*, 2010). The directors discussed their own filmography, as well as the opportunities and challenges in filmmaking, within the context of the resurgence of Latin American cinema. The Consul General of Mexico in New York, Carlos M. Sada, congratulated the young filmmakers on their magnificent trajectory.

Pedro González-Rubio is a Mexican filmmaker whose initiation to visual arts came at the age of 16 while living in New Delhi. He studied media in Mexico before attending the London Film School. He worked as a cinematographer on the film *Nacido sin* (*Born Without*, 2007) by Eva Norvind. His directorial debut, *Toro negro* (*Black Bull*, 2005), received several awards including the Horizontes Award for Best Latin American film from the San Sebastian Film Festival and the Best Documentary Award at the Morelia Film Festival. Alamar is his feature film debut, which has won numerous awards including the Tiger Award at the Rotterdam Film Festival, The Jury Award for Best Iberoamerican Film at the Miami Film Festival and the Best Film Prize at the Buenos Aires Independent Film Festival.



VUELVE A LA VIDA

International Film Center
June 21

Stranger than Fiction Tuesdays at the IFC and the Mexican Cultural Institute presented a screening of the documentary *Vuelve a la vida* (*Back To Life*, 2010) followed by a Q&A with director **Carlos Hagerman**. During the Q&A, Consul General Carlos M. Sada asked the director to describe what had inspired him to make this movie.

The documentary is a celebration of the late Hilario "Long Dog" Martínez, a legendary scuba diver from Acapulco, Mexico, and his lust for life. The film is instilled with a number of themes that transcend the social constructs of culture and nationality such as family and identity. The documentary quickly becomes a story of stories or homage to storytelling and its impact, even long after the storyteller is gone.

A reception was organized by **Mezcal Pierde Almas** where guests cheered the wonderful success of the documentary in Mexico and abroad.



Video still from El llanto de la tierra

HAVANA FILM FESTIVAL

Directors Guild Theatre
April 7-15

The Havana Film Festival in New York celebrated its 12th Anniversary with screenings of award-winning films, panel discussions and Q&A sessions with distinguished international directors, actors and producers.

The Mexican Cultural Institute was proud to support the Mexican films presented this year: *Viaje redondo (Round Trip*, 2009) by **Gerardo Tort**; *Corazón del tiempo (Heart of Time*, 2008) by **Alberto Cortés**; *Blattangelus* (2010) by **Araceli Santana**; and *Te extraño (I Miss You*, 2010) by **Fabián Hofman**. Tort, Santana and Hofman were present at the Festival.

Additionally, two documentaries were shown: *El llanto de la tierra* (*Cry of The Earth*, 2007) by **Lucio Olmos** and *Voladora* (*A Flying Woman*, 2008) by **Chloe Campero**.

RETROSPECTIVE: NICÓLAS PEREDA





Video still from Interview With the Earth

Anthology Film Archives presented a retrospective of one of the rising stars of contemporary Mexican cinema, **Nicolás Pereda**. Pereda has quickly amassed a body of work comprising five extraordinary feature-length films, *El Verano de Goliat (Summer of Goliath*, 2010), *Todo, en fin, el silencio ocupaba (All Things Were Now Overtaken by Silence* 2010), *Perpetuum mobile* (2009), *Juntos* (*Together*, 2009) and *Dónde están sus historias* (*Where Are Their Stories*?, 2007) and one short, *Entrevista con la tierra* (*Interview With the Earth*, 2008). This event was organized by FiGa Films, and presented in conjunction with the film series "GenMex: Recent Films from Mexico", in collaboration with Cinema Tropical and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York.



Lincoln Center September 30 - October 16

NEW YORK FILM

Miss Bala Director Gerardo Naranjo, Producer Pablo Cruz and star Stephanie Sigman at the NYFF

The 49th edition of The New York Film Festival featured 27 films from celebrated filmmakers and new talent at Alice Tully Hall.

Mexico has maintained a strong presence in the annual festival. This year, it was represented by director Gerardo Naranjo (Miss Bala, 2011), one of the most exciting young talents in filmmaking today. Miss Bala star Stephanie Sigman was present at the Festival thanks to the support of The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York.

Miss Bala approaches the topic of drug violence through the perspective of a Tijuana beauty pageant contestant who stumbles into the path of cartel operatives.





Video still from Más que nada en el mundo

GENMEX: RECENT FILMS FROM MEXICO

Anthology Film Archives September 22

The GenMex film series presented works made by some of the most outstanding filmmakers from Mexico of this generation, Carlos Gutiérrez, director of Cinema Tropical, curated the selection of six mexican films that included: Rabioso sol, rabioso cielo (Raging Sun, Raging Sky, 2009)by Julián Hernández; Norteado (Northless, 2009) by Rigoberto Perezcano; El calambre (The Cramp, 2009) by Matías Meyer, Intimidades de Shakespeare and Víctor Hugo (Shakespeare and Victor Hugo's Intimacies, 2008) by Yulene Olaizola; Año uña (Year of the Nail, 2007) by Jonás Cuarón; Familia tortuga (Turtle Family, 2007) by Rubén Imaz Castro, Más que nada en el mundo (More Than Anything in the World, 2006) by Andrés León Becker and Javier Solar and Parque Vía (2008) by **Enrique Rivero.**

IMAGINE SCIENCE FILM FESTIVAL



Indie Screen

October 18



Short Films presented:

El humano perfecto (The Perfect Human, 2008) by Andrés Cota Hiriart Noche de tungsteno (Tungsten Nights, 2012) by María Torres Camacho Carne que recuerda (Flesh that Remembers, 2009) by Dalia Huerta Cano An Incomplete Guide to Finding Home (2011) by Andrés Cota Hiriart 2042 (2010) by Emiliano Castro

Atmósfera (Atmosphere, 2012) by Julián Hernández

Invasión (Invasion, 2009) by Alberto Mar

Dentro del laboratorio (In Lab, 2011) - Based on the work of mexican scientists working throughout the world.





CINEMA TROPICAL AWARDS

NY Times Building
December 1

Video still from *El lugar más pequeño*

With the sponsorship of the Mexican Cultural Institute, Cinema Tropical presented their second edition of the Cinema Tropical Awards celebrating the best of Latin American film production. *El lugar más pequeño (The Tiniest Place*, 2011) by Mexican director **Tatiana Huezo** won awards for Best First Film and Best Director, Documentary Film; *Año bisiesto (Leap Year*, 2010) by Mexican director **Michael Rowe** won Best Director, Feature Film.

Huezo's remarkable El lugar más pequeño tells the story of Cinquera, a tiny place nestled in the mountains amidst a humid jungle ravaged by the bloody civil war that swept El Salvador between 1980 and 1992.

Rowe's Año bisiesto was the winner of the Caméra d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival, and tells the story of Laura, a young journalist living in Mexico City who finds herself in a destructive relationship.



Cinema Tropical Awards ceremony at the NY Times Building



UNDOCUMENTARIES / INDOCUMENTALES

92Y Tribeca / Americas Society
August 9 and December 20

Undocumentaries / Indocumentales is a traveling series of documentaries based on Mexican migration in the United States. *El Norte* (*The North*, 1983) by **Gregory Nava** was screened at 92Y Tribeca, and *Elvira* (2009) by **Javier Solórzano Casarín** at Americas Society.

El Norte is a film that follows the story of Mayan Indian peasants who are discovered and destroyed by a Guatemalan army. A young brother and sister manage to escape to "El Norte" --the US--with the help of veteran immigrants who teach them strategies for travelling through Mexico. Once they reach Los Angeles, the siblings try to make a new life as young, uneducated and undocumented immigrants.

Elvira tells the story of Elvira Arellano, a Mexican woman convicted of Social Security fraud after working as a janitor at the O'Hare International Airport. She took refuge at a Methodist church for 12 months until she was deported to Mexico and separated from her American-born son. The documentary narrates the drama of the undocumented mother who became an international symbol of the struggle of the rights of undocumented workers.



Video still from Elvira



AMERICA

Clearview Cinemas Chelsea

August 19

The Mexican Cultural Institute co-sponsored the screening of the film *America* (2011) by Mexican director Sonia Fritz along with the **New York Latino Film Festival**. The film tells the story of America, a woman who escapes her broken family in the Caribbean and moves to New York to work as a nanny. With the help of her new friends, America is determined to bring her daughter back with her.



Image courtesy of Native Networks

MAYAN EYE

The National Museum of the American Indian

October 29-30

Native Networks of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian along with Cinema Tropical, UCLA Film and Television Archive, with the support of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York presented the series *Mayan Eye*.

Award-winning filmmaker **Pedro Daniel López**, presented his film *La pequeña semilla en el asfalto* (*The Little Seed in the Asphalt*, 2009). The film follows the stories of young adults who leave their rural communities to seek artistic and intellectual life in the city of San Cristóbal de las Casas.

After the screening, the director and the producer, **Dolores Santiz Gómez**, held a discussion.



RFORMING

APAP 2011

New York Hilton Hotel

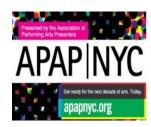
January 7-11

The Association of Performing Arts Presenters is the largest gathering of performing arts professionals, managers, decision makers and artists in the world. The conference is a great opportunity to showcase the world's diverse cultures in communities throughout the United States and globally. 2011 marked the conference's 56th anniversary and was attended by 3,900 professionals from 30 countries.

As in previous years, the Mexican Cultural Institute coordinated a booth and the attendance of the 40 cultural officials, artists, and festival directors making up the Mexican delegation.

This year's delegation included: Auditorio Telmex, Centro Nacional de las Artes, Instituto Nacional de las Bellas Artes, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Universidad de Guadalajara, Orquestas Juveniles de Yucatán, Instituto Chihuahuense de Cultura, Patronato de Cultural de Nuevo Laredo, Orly Productions, IMPRO, GO Productions, Por Piedad Teatro, Music Frontiers, Alpha & Omega Entertainment, Taquilla Cero, Rino Producciones, New Shows, Festival Internacional Cervantino and Festival Internacional de Reynosa.

With the assistance of APAP's Executive Director, special visits and meetings were organized for the delegates to prestigious institutions like The Julliard School, LARK, the José Limón Dance Company and the Museum of Modern Art.





From left to right: Jesús Echevarria, Musicians of the Carlos Chávez Quartet, Acting Director of the MCINY María Elena Cabezut and Aldo Sánchez

SUITE HUASTECA: NEW JERSEY BALLET

Performing Arts Center of New Jersey
May 21

Suite Huasteca, composed by Jesús Echevarria, choreographed by New York based ballet teacher David Fernández and executed by the New Jersey Ballet was presented at the Performing Art Center in New Jersey. The Carlos Chávez Quartet, Mexico's leading string quartet founded by cellist Alain Durbecq in 1994, accompanied the performance. Vivid sun-drenched colors of Mexico, created by artist Gabriela Rosado Rivera, were displayed in the backdrop.

The Suite Huasteca is an ambitious work that uses contemporary ballet movement and folk rythms to celebrate the golden age of Spanish Baroque. The piece was interpreted by 7 female and 4 male dancers, and divided into five sections to feature a new dancer in different formats: solo, duet, and ensemble.

THE LEGACY OF THE PROTEST SONG

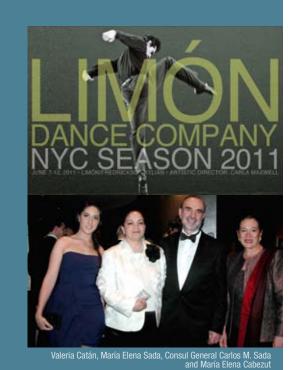


City University of New York May 2

Pablo Helguera, Director of Adult and Academic Programs at the Education Department at the Museum of Modern Art, held a panel discussion with Eric Zolov, history professor at Franklin and Marshall College and curator Aldo Sánchez Ramírez on the legacy of the protest song in Latin America, its relevance in Mexico, and its potential to address local and current issues today. The conference was organized by Araceli Tinajero, creator of the Mexico Study Group at the Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies at the City University of New York.

Pablo Helguera works in performance and various media. His work focuses on topics ranging from history, pedagogy, sociolinguistics, ethnography, memory, and the absurd, in formats such as lectures, museum display strategies, musical performances and written fiction.

JOSÉ LIMÓN DANCE COMPANY 2011



John Jay College Theatre
June 7-12

Mexican choreographer José Limón (1908-1972) was a crucial figure in the development of modern dance: his powerful dancing shifted perceptions of the male dancer, while his choreography continues to bring a dramatic vision of dance to audiences around the world. Since its creation in 1946, José Limón's Dance Company is highly acclaimed for its dramatic expression, technical mastery and expansive movement. The Company, now led by Gabriela Poler and Carla Maxwell, presented *Misa Brevis* in collaboration with Teatro Stage Festival at the Jay College Theatre.

The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York supported the event by bringing 10 guest dancers from Mexico. This was the 15th year that Mexican dancers were invited to dance with the Company in the United States. They came from Colima, Guanajuato, Jalisco, Michoacán, Sinaloa and Mexico City.

Participating dancers:

Citlali Quintero
Javier Arath
Israel Chavira
Lizette Marisol López
María de Jesús Bautista
Marina Acevedo
Roberto Robles
Víctor González
Oscar González
Geraldine Cardiel

The Consul General of Mexico in New York, Carlos M. Sada, his wife María Elena Sada, and Isabel and Agustín Coppel, entrepreneurs and art promoters from Sinaloa, Mexico, were guests of honor at the gala event.

CELEBRATE MEXICO NOW FESTIVAL



September 21 - October 1

2011 marked the 8th anniversary of the Celebrate Mexico Now Festival, the first and only annual festival of contemporary Mexican art and culture in New York City. Encompassing cuisine, dance, film, literature, music, theater, and visual art, the festival provides New York with a glimpse of the most intriguing artists and ideas pouring out of Mexico today.

Since its inception, the Mexican Cultural Institute has been sponsor of the Festival. This year the program included the following activities:

México Se Escribe con J

King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center NYU

Gen Mex: Recent Films of Mexico

Anthology Film Archives

Winning Short Films from the 2010 Morelia International Film Festival School of Visual Arts

Trajinera Xóchitl

Queens Museum

Hecho en México

Queens Museum of Art

History and Traditions of Mexican Gastronomy

St. John's University

Botellita de Jerez

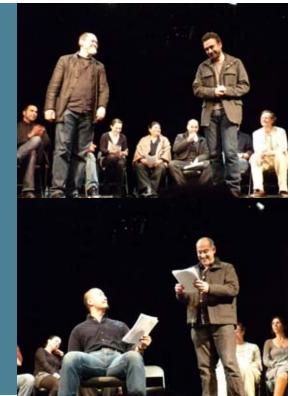
SOB's

Rey Trueno Soap Opera

Bowery Poetry Club

Orquestra Pasatono

David Rubenstein Atrium / Lincoln Center



Reading of playwright's work at the Repertorio Españo

LARK PLAYWRIGHT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

LARK Play Development Theatre

November 4-14

The 6th edition of the LARK playwright exchange program, a ten day residency and theatrical dialogue between Mexican playwrights, U.S. playwrights, and the Lark community, included the participation of three Mexican playwrights: Mario Cantú Toscano, Xavier Villanova and Alejandro Ricano Rodríguez. The program establishes ongoing channels of communication and collaboration between artists in the U.S. and Mexico.

The residents worked to translate their plays into English and ultimately present them in a public reading at the Repertorio Español. This edition also included an homage to **Victor Hugo Rascón** (1948-2008) whose play *Ausencia* was read in the final event.

The participation of the Mexican playwrights was made possible by a joint effort between El Fondo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes (FONCA), LARK Play Development Center and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York. The participants were also given the opportunity to attend plays on Broadway as well as independent productions. The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York hosted a welcome dinner for the playwrights at the Mexican restaurant Ofrenda.



Reading at the Repertorio Espar



BALLET FOLKLÓRICO AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Frist Campus Center Performance Theatre

April 1-2

The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York was invited by Mexican student Yayoi Teramoto to be present at the 9th Annual presentation of the Ballet Folklórico de Princeton at the Frist Campus Center Performance Theatre. The Ballet group was created by **Princeton students** in order to teach and promote the traditional dances of Colima, Baja California, Guerrero, Jalisco and Veracruz. The group is sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures, the Department of Anthropology and the Department of Comparative Literature at Princeton University. The performance was titled *Detrás del Sombrero*.

MADE IN MEXICO



Queens Museum of Art

September 24-25

Conceived and directed by Miguel Vaylon, Made in Mexico is a multidisciplinary reflection on the stereotypical headlines from contemporary Mexico publications, interwoven with popular stories from the culture via theatre, dance, video and music performances.

The project is performed by local artists from each host city. *Made in Mexico* was first performed in Egypt and has subsequently been presented in Spain, Tunisia, Mexico, France, Japan and Chile.



UNWANTED

4th Street Theatre

August 13-27

Colectivodoszeta, a dance group directed by Mexican choreographer Carlos A. Cruz Velázquez, presented Unwanted with the support of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York at the New York International Fringe Festival, the largest multi-arts festival in North America. The performance explored the emotions that cause one to abandon, leave or discard something physical or metaphorical. The dance was performed by Zoe Blake, Lori Byargeon, Lauren Garson, Jennifer Jones, Kathryn Rhodes and Eun Hwa Shin. The music presented was created by Mexican artist Giovanni Escalera.

BALLET FOLKLÓRICO DE MÉXICO EN NUEVA YORK

Hudson on the Armory

September 15

As part of our Independence Day celebrations, the Ballet Folklórico de México en Nueva York performed at the Hudson on the Armory, led by their Artistic Director **José Refugio González**, a performer, instructor and choreographer from Queretaro, Mexico.

The Ballet Folklórico de México en Nueva York is a non-profit organization dedicated to conserving Mexican traditions through regional dances thorough performances and classes.



CAYENDO CON VICTORIANO

Roy Arias Theatre April 28 – May 28

Cayendo con Victoriano is a satirical play that describes the complicated relationship between Mexico and the United States during the Mexican Revolution between the years 1913 and 1914.

The play is based on the book *La Esposa de un Diplomático* en México, by Edith O'Shaughnessy, the wife of Nelson O'Shaughnessy, Chargé D'Affairs of the United States in Mexico during the presidency of Victoriano Huerta. The book was adapted by Mexican writer *Luis G. Ortiz* and directed by *Luis Martín Garza*, winner of La Medalla de Oro Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes in Mexico. Huerta was portrayed by Mexican actor *Alfredo Huereca*.



PEN WORLD VOICES

PEN American Center
April 26-May 1

The 7th edition of the PEN World Voices Festival of International Literature brought together authors from more than 40 countries. On this occasion, Mexico was represented by writer Enrique Serna, who participated in the round table discussion On new tendencies in Spanish Literature hosted by the Instituto Cervantes. Serna was accompanied by writers Marcelo Figueras from Argentina, Manuel de Lope from Spain, and Teresa Solana from the region of Cataluña. The round table was moderated by Eduardo Lago, director of the Instituto Cervantes.

Enrique Serna has been awarded the Premio Mazatlán de Literatura for his historic novel *El seductor de la Patria*, the Premio de Narrativa de Colima for his novel *Ángeles del abismo* and the Premio Antonin Artaud for his most recent novel *La Sangre Erguida*. Gabriel García Márquez included a story from Serna in *Cambio*, an anthology of Mexican literature. His books have been translated into French, Italian, English, and Portuguese.

The presence of Enrique Serna was made possible thanks to the support of the Mexican Cultural Institute. The Consul General of Mexico in New York, Carlos M. Sada, hosted a dinner to welcome Serna's presence in the PEN Festival.





Carlos Fuentes and Consul General Carlos M. Sada

CARLOS FUENTES CONFERENCE

Instituto Cervantes

January 24

Carlos Fuentes, one of the best-known living authors of Spanish Literature, presented his latest book *The Great Latin American Novel* at the Instituto Cervantes.

Javier Rioyo, Executive Director of the Instituto Cervantes, held a conversation with Fuentes on the evolution of Latin American narrative and its main literary figures, from the discovery of the American Continent to the present. They discussed the work of authors such as Borges, Neruda, Cortazar, Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, Sandoval, Zapata, Gorostiza, and Lezama Lima. Consul General Sada joined the audience in congratulating Mr. Fuentes for his invaluable contributions to universal literature through his work.

MEXICAN MODERNISM: NEW PERSPECTIVES



King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center March 3

The Wolfsonian-Florida International University, the King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center, and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York presented a panel discussion about twentieth-century art and architecture in Mexico. Luis Carranza, Celeste Donovan, Linda Klich and James Oles, contributors to the Mexico theme issue of The Wolfsonian's Journal of Decorative & Propaganda Arts (2010), were present to discuss the publication.

The issue opened up new perspectives in the field of twentieth-century Mexican art and visual culture. It brought together research on a wide array of understudied developments in architecture, painting, decorative arts, propaganda, and other media revealing that Mexican modernism was more multifaceted than is typically proposed.

Karen Cordero, Rafael Barajas, Federica Zanco, Alejandro Gálvez, Ana Elena Mallet and Esther Gabara were among the experts who collaborated on this edition. They analyzed the work of architects Juan O'Gorman and Luis Barragán, of painters María Izquierdo and Mathías Goeritz, and the Stridentists Ramón Alva de la Canal, Manuel Maples Arce, and Germán List Arzubide. They also mentioned the influence of the techniques of Adolfo Best Maugard on modern painting.

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TIENTO/TOUCH

McNally Jackson Books

May 20

Benjamin Capps and Rocío Cerón

Mexican author Rocio Cerón presented her book *Tiento* (2010) at McNally Jackson bookstore. The writer read various of her poems and was accompanied by cellist **Benjamin Capps**, who interpreted works by Mexican composer **Enrico Chapela**, created especially for the book.

Cerón's objective was to create a dialogue in conjunction with other arts. Inspired on images of Belgrade, Argentina, Uruguay and Mexico, the author creates a universe in *Tiento* in which she weaves together themes such as exile, migration to the Americas, the maternal figure, the enigma of fatherhood, the concept of inheritance, absence and loss.

Other books by Cerón include *Basalto* for which she was awarded the Nacional de Literatura Gilberto Owen in 2002; *Litoral*; *Soma*; *Apuntes para sobrevivir el aire*; *La mañana comienza muy tarde*; and *Gramática del Nudo*, *Poesía*. Her books have been translated into English, Finnish, French, Swedish and German.



Margo Glantz

INÉDITAS: MARGO GLANTZ

December 8

King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center

New York University and the Mexican Cultural Institute presented renowned Mexican writer Margo Glantz at a seminar of creative literature at the King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center. Excerpts from her recent work *Inéditas* were read at the event, accompanied by authors Diamela Eltit from Chile and Sylvia Molloy from Argentina. The author read various texts to an audience that included writers, academics and students of literature.

Margo Glantz is an outstanding writer, essayist, literary critic and distinguished academic. Glantz has received numerous literary and scholarly awards that confirm her national and international reputation. These distinguished recognitions include: Premio Magda Donato (1982) for *Las genalogías*; Premio Xavier Villarrutia (1984) for *Síndrome de naufragios*; Premio Universidad Nacional (1991) for teaching excellence at UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico); Premio Nacional de Ciencias y Artes (2004); and Rockefeller (1996) and Guggenheim (1998) grants.



Valerie Mejer and Gaspar Orozco

ASTRODIARIO

McNally Jackson Books

January 21

Mexican writer **Gaspar Orozco** presented his book *Astrodiario*, edited by Bagatela Press, along with fellow poet **Valerie Mejer**. Orozco's book is composed of poems about stars and the relationship they hold with the island of Manhattan. The writer discussed themes such as destiny, changing visions and the eternity of celestial objects. The reception that followed the presentation included a book signing.



GRANTA MAGAZINE

192 Books

May 25

The Spain-USA Foundation and the Embassy of Spain, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture of Spain, Duomo Ediciones, Granta en Español and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York, presented *Building Bridges: Spanish and English language writers in conversation*, as part of a literary tour through major US cities featuring some of the best young Spanish language novelists.

Granta Magazine held a round table discussion to address literature in translation: the process in which texts and authors are selected to be published, and the challenges presented in translating works into English.

Mexican writer Antonio Ortuño was selected to publish his work *Boca pequeña, labios delgados* in the second edition of Granta magazine.

ROBINSON ANTE EL ABISMO. RECUENTO DE ISLAS



Juan Villoro and Bruno H. Piché at McNally Jackson Books

McNally Jackson Books
September 9

Mexican writer **Juan Villoro** presented the book Robinson ante el abismo: recuento de islas by **Bruno Hernández Piché**. The book, published by **El Equilibrista**, is a compilation of essays, notes, reflections, autobiographical pages, and the work and poems of other authors on the subject of islands. Piché thus paints a portrait of the different significances of an island: solitude, possession, and abandonment, among other ideas.

The presence of Bruno Hernández Piché was made possible thanks to the support of the Mexican Cultural Institute.



Alastair Reid and Pura López Colomé at McNally Jackson Books

RESONANCIAS, POESÍA EN DOS LENGUAS RESONANCE, POETRY IN TWO LANGUAGES

McNally Jackson Books September 17

El Fondo de Cultura Económica presented an anthology of poems compiled and translated by Mexican poet and essayist Pura López Colomé, and Scottish-born writer Alastair Reid.

This wonderful bilingual collection was presented in the form of a small book and three CDs (which the authors lent their voices for) in order to build a bridge between two of the main literary traditions of the world.

For the presentation, Colomé and Reid selected and read poems by Pablo Neruda, Álvaro Mutis, Gonzalo Rojas, Tomás Segovia, Xavier Villaurrutia, as well as some of their own poetry.

INTERNACIONAL DEL LIBRO DE GUADALAJARA

Americas Society
May 23

The Feria Internacional del Libro de Guadalajara (FIL) and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York hosted a reception at Americas Society as part of Book Expo America to promote the fair and invite editors and other book fair directors to the 25th anniversary celebration of the FIL.

Consul General Carlos M. Sada gave a welcoming speech and thanked the FIL for their wonderful job as the most important publishing gathering in Ibero-America. Nubia Macías, Director of the FIL, invited the attendees to the 2011 fair in Guadalajara, which included a program of 600 book presentations, concerts and conferences.

The event was attended by over 100 guests that included directors of book fairs from Frankfurt, London, Bologna and Abu Dhabi, as well as editors from Italy and other literary agents.



David Unger, Nubia Macías, Consul General Carlos M. Sada and Daniel Shapiro



Guillermo Quijas, International Oaxaca Book Fair Director, Frank Goldman, and 2011

AURA ESTRADA PRI7F

International Oaxaca Book Fair October 27

The Mexican Cultural Institute has supported the Aura Estrada Prize, named after the late writer Aura Estrada, since its launching last year. The prize is an initiative by writer Frank Goldman and is awarded bi-annually to female writers under the age of 35 who reside in Mexico or the US and write creative prose (fiction or nonfiction) in Spanish. The award includes a stipend and residency at one of three writer's colonies: Ucross in Wyoming, Ledig House in New York, and Santa Magdalena in Tuscany, Italy. Granta en Español will also publish an excerpt of the winner's writing in their publication. The MCINY administers all donations and serves as the Prize's fiscal spansor.

This year, The Aura Estrada Prize was awarded to 29 year old Maria José Ramírez Herrera for her book composed of 13 stories based on real events that occurred in Mexico in 1982.

To learn more about this wonderful prize and make donations please visit: www.auraestradaprize.org



Aura Estrada Prize winner Maria José Ramírez Herrera receiving

Claudio Iván Remeseira and Wilbert Torre at McNally Jackson Books

TODO POR UNA MANZANA

McNally Jackson Books
July 22

McNally Jackson Books hosted the presentation of the book *Todo por una manzana* by Wilbert Torre, who was accompanied by Claudio Iván Remeseira, director of the Hispanic New Project of Columbia University. The Consul General of Mexico in New York, Carlos M. Sada, was present at the event. The book, published by Jus editorial (2010), is a series of portraits of eight successful Mexicans living in New York: Enrique Norten, architect; Eugenio Derbez, actor; Alondra de la Parra, conductor; Víctor Rodríguez, painter; Bianca Marroquín, actor; Magos Herrera, singer; José Limón, dancer and choreographer and Antonio Sánchez, musician.

LA CASITA

Lincoln Center

August 6



Enriqueta Lunez at La Casita

The Lincoln Center Out of Doors Festival presented La Casita, a day-long celebration of urban poetry, music and dance expressions of traditional and contemporary cultures. This year's edition included a reading by poet Enriqueta Lunez from San Juan Chamula, Chiapas, who writes in her native Mayan language of Tzotzil.



AUTOCINEMA

McNally Jackson Books
October 15

Mexican author Gaspar Orozco presented his book *Autocinema* with poets Valerie Mejer and Mark Weiss at McNally Jackson Books. The writers discussed Orozco's body of work including his poetry, his punk rock past, and his 2010 documentary, *Subterráneos: Música Norteña en Nueva York* about the Norteño music groups that perform in New York City subways.

Orozco was born in Chihuahua, México. He has published the books *Abrir fuego*, *El Silencio de lo que cae*, *Notas del País de Z*, and *Astrodiario*. He was a member of the punk group Revolución X, with whom he recorded several discs.



MÉXICO SE ESCRIBE CON J

King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center September 21

The Celebrate Mexico Now Festival, in collaboration with the Mexican Cultural Institute, presented a conversation with the writers, editors, and artists that contributed to the book *Mexico* se escribe con J. The publication is an account of the gay rights movement in Mexico and its impact on the country's cultural life.

The presence of editor Michael Schuessler and Nayar Rivera was made possible with the support of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York.



Michael Schuessler and Nayar Rivera at KJCC



CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH CARNEGIE HALL



Consul General Carlos M. Sada with Celso Duarte at Carnegie Hall

The Cultural Exchange Program connects musicians and young artists from the United States and Mexico. Educators from Carnegie Hall visited Mexico City to teach and share their knowledge with music students of intermediate to superior levels of study, in addition to including international music in their academic program for a full year. The program encourages students to share their work and connect with other musicians from around the world through their social networking website and distance learning technology.

Four concerts were screened simultaneously at the Weill Music Institute (Carnegie Hall) in New York City and Teatro Julio Castillo del Centro Cultural del Bosque in Mexico City. Approximately 400 students attended the concerts. The bands that played were: Mexican musician Celso Duarte with his six harp band, Miguel Zenón and his trumpet quartet (USA) and the hip hop trumpet player Maurice "Mobetta" Brown (USA). The Consul General of Mexico in New York, Carlos M. Sada, attended the concerts.

Paraguayan-born Celso Duarte is a virtuoso of Paraguayan harp and Mexican jarocho harp. He was raised in Mexico with a rich musical background. Celso has been impressing audiences from around the world from a very early age; first touring with his family, and for the past several years as a key member of Lila Downs' band.



Roberto Hidalgo and Marc Peloquin

SPLIT SECOND DUET

Tenri Cultural Institute and Chelsea Art Museum January 22 and May 20

Split Second, comprised of pianists Robert Hidalgo and Marc Peloguin, offered two superb concerts: in January, as part of the Piano as the Essential Element at the Tenri Cultural Center Series, and in May, as part of the KeyedUp Music Project at the Chelsea Art Museum.

The programs included Machinary by Mexican composer Carlos Sánchez Gutiérrez and Passacaglia by composer John Musto, as well as pieces by Nils Vigeland, Drew Hemenger and Maurice Ravel.

The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York held a reception in celebration of the musicians.

EASTMAN BROADBAND



May 13



Eastman Broadband in concert

Eastman Broadband, directed by Juan Trigos, and created by Mexican musicians Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon (Guadalajara, Mexico) and Carlos Sánchez Gutiérrez (Mexico City, Mexico) offered an exquisite concert of classical music at the Americas Society.

The program included the pieces Five memos & Trio variations by Sánchez Gutiérrez, Jácaras y Páramo by Zohn-Muldoon and Bagatella per Bartók and Pulsaciones y Resonancias by Juan Trigos, played for the first time in New

The main purpose of the group is to explore the various facets of the process of creating contemporary music. Their repertoire goes through the imaginary interaction between the composers and the art of Paul Klee, the music of Bartók's, as well as the texts of Juan Rulfo and Italo Calvino.

Consul General of Mexico in New York, Carlos M. Sada was present to congratulate the musicians at the end of the concert.

CINCO DE GALLO



From left to right: Erika Mercado, Marina García-Vaáquez, Iris Avelar v Ruby Vizcarra

Le Poisson Rouge

May 5

Mex and The City, a cultural group that promotes young artists programs, initiatives and projects in New York City, organized a celebration in honor of La Batalla de Puebla. The event took place at Le Poisson Rouge and included live music from Grupo Macuanos, a group that mixes folkloric sound with traditional music from northern Mexico. The presence of Grupo Macuanos was made possible with the help of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York.



From left to right: Asmira Woodword-Page, Emilie-Anne Grendon, Stephanie Griffin and Michael Haas

MOMENTA QUARTET

Americas Society
May 31

Momenta Quartet performed a full program of music composed by **Julián Carrillo (Sonido 13)** at the Americas Society. **Sebastián Zubieta**, Director of the Music Department at Americas Society, introduced the band and spoke about the importance of Carrillo's work, a subject that is not mentioned often enough in the history of contemporary music.

The music sheets were shown to the public so they could take a look at the unusual notes that Carrillo is known for. The Quartet is composed by Asmira Woodword-Page, violinist from Australia; Anne Grendon, violinist from Korea; Stephanie Griffin, viola player from Canada, and Michael Haas, cello player from the United States.



Alejandro Escuer on stage

BANG ON A CAN

Winter Garden, Financial Center June 19

Flutist Alejandro Escuer performed at the 25th edition of Bang on a Can at the Winter Garden of the Financial Center. Since 1987, Bang on a Can has drawn thousands of audience members and features more than 150 performers and composers from around the world. Escuer performed the New York City premier of *Códigos Secretos*, a piece composed by **Gabriela Ortiz**. The one-day event was admission free and lasted from 11am until midnight.

Alejandro Escuer is a musician, composer, and tenured professor at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. He has received several awards, including the Líderes de Mexico Honorary Award and the Rockefeller Foundation Award.

CELEBRATING HISPANIC AND LATIN AMERICAN CULTURE

Metropolitan Museum of Art

September 24

The Metropolitan Museum of Art celebrated **Hispanic Heritage month** with a Museum-wide event based on Hispanic and Latin American art and culture focused on family programming. The Met's second annual celebration of Hispanic Heritage offered programs for all ages. All the events were related to Pre-Columbian, Spanish, and Latin American art from the Metropolitan Museum's collection. The Consul General of Mexico in New York, **Carlos M. Sada**, attended the celebrations.

Featured events included: storytelling in Spanish and English, Spanish baroque music, artwork demonstrations, salsa dance workshops and a special performance by Mariachi Real de México at the front steps of the Museum into the Great Hall. Other performances were made by Mónica Abrego, José Luis Duval with the Villalobos Brothers, and Ballet Folklórico Raíces de Mexico.



Consul General Carlos M. Sada, Mariachi Real de México, Mónica Abrego, José Luis Duval, Hermanos Villalobos and Jeff Nevin



MÉXICO AZUL

Jazz at Lincoln Center
May 30

Magos Herrera presented her new album Mexico Azul at the prestigious Dizzy's Club at Jazz at Lincoln Center. Members of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York and the Consul General of Mexico in New York, Carlos M. Sada, were present at the event.

Herrera interpreted classical pieces from the golden age of music in Mexico accompanied by important figures of Jazz such as **Adam Rogers**, guitarist; **Luis Perdomo**, pianist; **John Paitucci**, base; **Alex Kautz**, drums; and **Rogerio Bocatto**, percussion.

Songs included Luz de luna by Álvaro Carrillo and Lamento Jarocho by Agustín Lara.



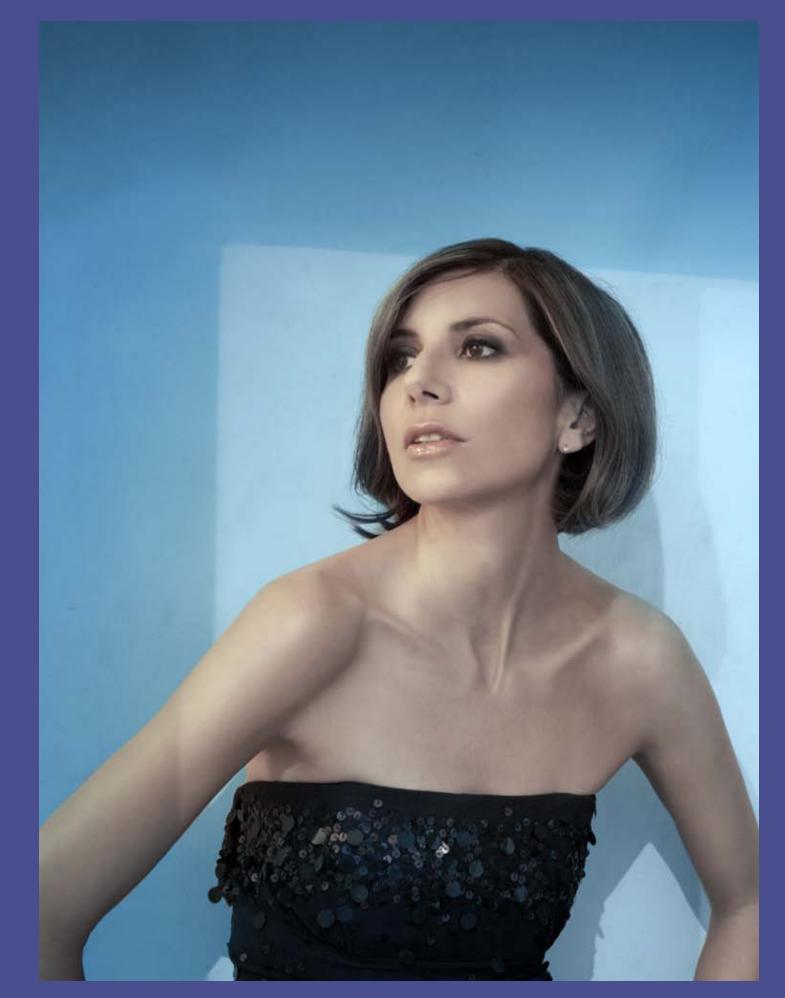


Photo by Javier Ortega

CÉSAR REYES

Greenwich House Music School

October 6

After 2010's successful debut at Carnegie Hall, Mexican pianist **César Reyes** returned to participate during Latin Media and Entertainment Week in a recital celebrating the Bicentennial of Franz Liszt and his influence on Latin American composers. Reyes presented a musical journey of works by Ginastera, Villa-Lobos, Ponce, Moncayo and Liszt. The pianist was inspired by legends, landscapes and love stories.



LÁZARO VALIENTE

Issue Project Room

October 18

Lázaro Valiente, Mexican sound artist, performed at the Issue Project Room in celebration of the publication of *Transmission Arts: Artists and Airwaves*. Valiente's music combines sounds and silence originating from daily improvisations of life.



PATRICIA GARCÍA TORRES

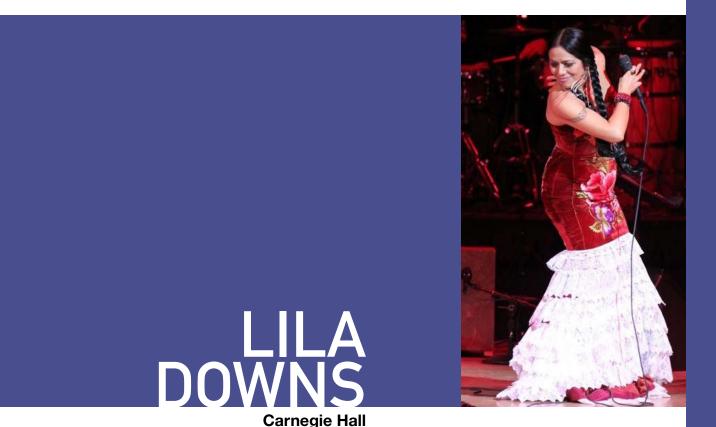
Steinway Hall

November 10

The Mexican Cultural Institute and Steinway and Sons co-sponsored a concert by Mexican pianist Patricia García Torres at Steinway Hall Rotunda.

García Torres' unique performance included works by Maurice Ravel and two of the more representative Mexican composers, Manuel M. Ponce and Federico Ibarra. The second half of the program was devoted to the Liszt Sonata in b minor to commemorate the 200th anniversary year of Liszt's death.

American poet Rosalie Calabrese read a chapter from the book *Conversations with Arrau* by Joseph Horowitz which describes passages of the sonata in connection with Goethe's *Faust*.



Mexican singer Lila Downs charmed the audience at her Carnegie Hall debut concert. Downs sang music from her last project: *Sins and Miracles*, which explores Mexican religious notions in light of modern events. Her music is a contemplation of her experiences as a mother, everyday miracles, and the meaning of sin in the modern world. The music was accompanied by a series of specially commissioned votive paintings by 15 Mexican painters. The artworks were curated by Oaxacan Contemporary artist *Demián Flores* and *Lila Downs*.

November 15

Lila Downs, born in Oaxaca, Mexico, is the daughter of Mixtec singer Anita Sánchez and Allen Downs, a Scottish-American art professor and filmmaker. She graduated from the University of Minnesota in voice and anthropology. Down's embraces and highlights indigenous Mexican origins in her music, as well as topics of political and social justice, immigration and transformation.





Lila Downs performing with Mariachi Real de México at Carnegie Hall.



RICARDO MARTÍNEZ

Carnegie Hall

November 11

Mexican Orchestra Director Ricardo Martínez made his debut at Carnegie Hall with a selection of music that included works from Ponce, Villa-Lobos and Silvestre Revueltas. The music, inspired by the ancestral power of the Amazon, counted with the support of Nilko Andreas (Colombia) on guitar, soprano Angélica de la Riva (Brazil), and the AZLO Orchestra. The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York hosted a reception after the concert.



CLAUDIO HERRERA

Carnegie Hall December 4

Mexican pianist Claudio Herrera presented a concert at Weill Recital Hall. The concert included music from Chopin, Liszt, Castro and Ponce. Herrera, a member of the Concertistas de Bellas Artes in Mexico City, the Coordinación Nacional de Música and the Ópera del Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes, studied piano in Italy, France and the Ukraine, where he studied under Monique Debus, Ugo Cividino, Vlado Perlemuter, Sergei Polusmiak and Catherine Thibon





FOOD IS ART

Casa Mezcal September 16

Retablo "Mayahuel" by Marissa Sánchez

The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York's culinary program, **Food is Art**, offers a series of cooking classes, lectures and other activities designed to commemorate Mexican gastronomy. The rich history in Mexican cuisine is explored under the direction of distinguished Board member and renowned restaurateur **Zarela Martínez**.

This year, Food is Art offered the following events:

- 1. Julián Medina's taught a tortilla making class for children at his restaurant, Toloache.
- 2. Food Network star Aaron Sánchez led a food tour to various Red Hook restaurants.
- 3. Zoyla Mendoza of Teotitlán del Valle, Oaxaca came to New York to be part of a seminar titled *Mexican Corn Kitchen* and gave a class on Zapotec food at the **Museum of the American Indian**.
- 4. Sue Torres led a group to New York's Greenmarket and used the ingredients purchased there in a cooking class at her restaurant, **Sueños**.
- 5. Barbara Sibley of **La Palapa** Restaurant and Tim Stark, author of *Heirloom*, collaborated on a presentation featuring dishes from Sibley's book *Antojitos*.
- 6. A mariachi serenade in honor of Santa Cecilia, patron saint of musicians, and a wonderful dinner at Roberto Santibañez's restaurant. Fonda.
- 7. A silent auction of modern and traditional Retablos was held at **Casa Mezcal** in order to raise money for Food is Art's 2012 events.



PROMOTERS OF MEXICAN FOOD IN NEW YORK

In a joint effort, some of the best Mexican restaurants in New York came together to promote the taste and traditions of Mexico as part of the Independence Day celebrations at Armory on the Hudson: Cariño, El Paso Taquería, Ofrenda, Café Frida, Casa Vieja, Hecho en Dumbo, Toloache, La Palapa, Salud, Don Paco Tortas and La Newyorkina.

























OAXACA AL GUSTO

Casa Mezcal September 16 Diana Kenned

The Consul General of Mexico in New York invited **Diana Kennedy**, a distinguished food historian, to present her book Oaxaca al Gusto at **Casa Mezcal**. The author was introduced by Clayton Kirking, Chief of Art Information Resources at the New York Public Library. Kirking praised the contents of the beautiful book and the many photographs that were taken by the author. An intrepid student of Mexican food-ways, author and authority on Mexican cooking. Ms. Kennedy was awarded the **Order of the Aztec Eagle**, by the Government of Mexico for her contributions to the documentation of regional Mexican Cuisine.

In *Oaxaca al Gusto*, Kennedy takes us on an amazing journey into one of the most outstanding and colorful cuisines in the world. The state of Oaxaca is one of the most diverse in Mexico, with many different cultural and linguistic groups, often living in areas difficult to access. Each group has its own distinctive cuisine, and Diana Kennedy has spent many years traveling the length and breadth of Oaxaca to record in words and photographs "these little-known foods, both wild and cultivated, the way they were prepared, and the part they play in the daily or festival life of the communities I visited." *Oaxaca al Gusto* is the fruit of these labors.

Organized by regions, Kennedy's book presents some three hundred recipes- most from home cooks- for traditional Oaxacan dishes. Kennedy accompanies each recipe with fascinating notes about the ingredients, cooking techniques, and the food's place in family and communal life. Lovely color photographs illustrate the food and its preparation. A special feature of the book is a chapter devoted to the three pillars of the Oaxacan regional cuisines – chocolate, corn, and chiles.



Clayton Kirking and Diana Kennedy at Casa Mezcal





Armory on the Hudson September 15

In celebration of the **201st Anniversary of Mexico's Independence**, the Consulate General of Mexico in New York and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York organized a civic celebration led by the Consul General of Mexico in New York, **Carlos M. Sada**, at the Armory on the Hudson.

The festivities were organized in collaboration with **Telemundo 47** and attended by over 2,000 guests that included local authorities representing the Borough of the Bronx and the Borough of Manhattan; the Ambassador of Mexico to the United Nations; representatives from Pro México, the Legislative Branch in México; The Mexico-USA Chamber of Commerce; Mexican Tourism Board; the Military and the Naval Advisors of Mexico to the United Nations.

The event included performances by the Mariachi Tapatío, the Ballet Folklórico de México en Nueva York, and renowned singer, Irma Infante. Mexican soccer player Rafa Márquez raffled off signed soccer balls in benefit of his charity: Fundación Rafa Márquez. TV personalities Omar Germenos and Odalys Molina hosted the celebration.

Mexican food stands offered the guests delicious dishes by the restaurants Café Frida, Casa Vieja, El Paso Taquería, Ofrenda, Toloache, La Palapa, Salud, Cariño, Don Paco Lopez Tortas, Hecho en Dumbo, and La Newyorkina. In addition, Pepsi Cola offered a generous donation of its products to the Mexican community.



Invite design by Euro RSCG Latir



EMPIRE STATE BUILDING



Photo: Coco Martin / www.cocomartin.com

September 15

The **Empire State Building**, one of New York City's most iconic structures, celebrated the Mexican Independence Day by lighting the top of the building with the **red**, **white** and **green** colors of the Mexican flag on the evening of September 15. The lighting was cause for great pride among the Mexican community living in New York City.

The Consulate General of Mexico in New York and the Mexican Cultural Institute would like to thank the Empire State Building for this special lighting.



The Empire State Building image ® is a registered trademark of ESBC and is used with permission.



Deputy Consul Ismael Naveja Photo: Dennis McDonald

83RD ANNUAL CARRANZA MEMORIAL SERVICE

Emilio Carranza Memorial Park July 9

In 1928, Mexican pilot Capitán Emilio Carranza Rodríguez set a record for the third longest non-stop flight from San Diego to Mexico City. That same year, he became a national hero when he was selected to undertake a goodwill flight from Mexico City to New York City. After landing at Roosevelt Field on Long Island, he was honored by Secretary of Commerce, Herbert Hoover, and the Mayor of New York Jimmy Walker. On his return to Mexico City, Carranza encountered a thunderstorm that led his plane to crash over the Pinelands of Southern New Jersey.

Every July, on the Saturday nearest the anniversary of his crash, Carranza is honored by the members of the American Legion Mount Holly Post 11. This year, Deputy Consul Ismael Naveja, in representation of General Consul Carlos M. Sada, presented a wreath donated by the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York in honor of Capitán Carranza.

PROJECT PAZ: SILENT AUCTION

Photos: Neil Rasmus / BFAnyc.com

Project Paz, a non-profit organization created by a group of young professionals living in New York City, presented *Project Art: Silent Auction* in conjunction with Banamex to raise funds for the program *Ampliando el Desarrollo de los Niños (ADN)* developed by Fundación del Empresariado Chihuahuense, A.C. (FECHAC). ADN is dedicated to creating after-school activities and provide a safe place to learn and extend the academic skills of children living in marginalized areas in Ciudad Juárez.

First Lady of Mexico Margarita Zavala attended the special event to share her support. The auction was hosted by Sergio Urías, Eugenia González Ruiz-Olloqui, Stacey Caldwell, and members of Project Paz.

Thirteen acclaimed designers: Yigal Azrouel, Michael Bastian, Sara Beltrán, Eddie Borgo, Christian Cota, Alejandro Ingelmo, Philip Lim, Anndra Neen, Juan Carlos Obando, Thakoon, Rag & Bone, and Peter Som created one-of-a-kind fashion items using traditional Mexican fabrics brought to New York by the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York from the Museo Textil de Oaxaca. The dresses, along with artworks by Mexican artists Betsabeé Romero, Erika Harrsch, Natalia Porter and Moza Saracho, were auctioned in benefit of the children in Ciudad Juarez.



From left to right: Guest, Eugenia Gonzalez Ruiz-Olloqui, Verónica Sarukhan, Ambassador of Mexico to the United States Arturo Sarukhan, Sergio Urias, First Lady of Mexico Margarita Zavala, Consul General Carlos M. Sada, and Maria Elena Sada.

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Allan and Angel Kent with Veronica Sarukhan

First Lady of Mexico Margarita Zavala, Allan Kent and

Alvaro "Mosco" Alcocer and Marela Zacarías at Muse

DÍA DE MUERTOS

November 2

Consulate General of Mexico of New York

The Day of the Dead was celebrated with a special reception organized by the Mexican Cultural Institute. Artists Allan and Angel Kent designed an altar dedicated to Diego Rivera with artisan pieces brought from San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico. The event featured a marimba concert, Mexican tamales, tequila, and pan de muerto. The altar was open to the public until the 10th of November.

The reception was graced with the presence the First Lady of Mexico Margarita Zavala and members from the Mexican Cultural Institute's Board of Directors, the Mexico-USA Chamber of Commerce, and the Mexican Tourism Board. A representative from the President's office of the Borough of Manhattan were also present.

El Museo del Barrio

El Museo del Barrio celebrated this 3,000 year-old Mexican tradition by commissioning an altar created by Mexican artists Marela Zacarías and Alvaro "Mosco" Alcocer. The altar was inspired by the cultural fusions of Mexico and New York and commemorated friends and relatives that have passed away.

Other activities included a colorful procession through Central Park, champurrado, a pan de muerto tasting, and a concert performed by the **Duo Adela and Lupita**.

Ofrenda Restaurant

Ofrenda Restaurant celebrated the Day of the Dead with an altar made in collaboration with the Mexican Cultural Institute's *Food is Art* program and a special weeklong food and drink menu. On the night of November 2, a group of dancers performed a dance to ward off evil spirits.

A DE MUERTOS OFRENDA CREADA POR ALLAN & ANGEL KENT 27 East 39th Street New York, NY 10016 2 DE NOVIEMBRE, 6PM

FRIENDS OF OAXACAN FOLK ART HOLIDAY SALE

At the Home of Michael and Amy Mulvihill

November 18-19

Friends of Oaxacan Folk Art (FOFA) held a **holiday sale** in support of the preservation and promotion of the folk art traditions of Oaxaca, Mexico. The sale, led by President of FOFA **Arden Rothstein**, included exquisite painted woodcarvings, ceramics, jewelry and other fine pieces.

FOFA's mission, since its creation in 2007, has been to contribute to the **preservation and promotion of Oaxaca's rich artistic heritage**. These traditions are endangered by economic challenges in the region that significantly impact the folk art community. FOFA's projects are designed to provide public exposure to raise awareness, appreciation and marketability of these art forms, to encourage Mexican folk artists to pursue and refine their crafts and to assist "artesano" communities to enhance market opportunities through existing organizations such as the State Museum of Popular Art of Oaxaca.



From left to right: Mitchell Codding, Ricardo Salinas, Salvador Rueda, Bill de Blasio and Consul General Carlos M. Sada

CREOLE IN THE MIRROR

Hispanic Society
November 17

The Hispanic Society, the Museo Franz Mayer and Fomento Cultural Grupo Salinas organized a presentation of the catalog for the magnificent exhibition *El Criollo y su reflejo*. The publication records the exhibition of the almost 150 pieces taken from the collections of all three Institutions that were shown at the Museo Franz Mayer in Mexico City.

The presentation and cocktail reception was hosted by **Ricardo Salinas Pliego**, Chairman of Grupo Salinas, **Mitchell Codding**, Executive Director of the Hispanic Society, **Carlos M. Sada**, Consul General of Mexico in New York and **Bill de Blasio**, public advocate, City of New York.

The special presentation of the catalog commemorates the Mexican Bicentennial of Independence and the Centennial of the Mexican Revolution. The catalog gathers the identity of Mexican creoles through the mixing of Spanish and ancient indigenous cultures.



MEXICAN CULTURAL

The Mexican Cultural Institute has always been present, has always

Erika Harrsch Visual Artist









Every single one of the Institute's effort yields great rewards.

Mónica de la Torre Former Coordinator of the Institute's Literary Program



The Mexican Cultural Institute has helped me to present my films in New York City.

Pedro González Rubio Filmmaker

I believe that the exhibit that the Institute organized further launched my career, giving it more credibility.

Dulce Pinzón Visual Artist

Mitzi Hernández Broadcaster



Hunter College October 17

MCINY

APPRECIATION DA

Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer hands proclar to María Elena Cabezut, Acting Director of the MCINY

Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by recognizing the Hispanic community's important contributions that enrich New York's cultural, economic, and social fabric. The event celebrated Hispanic residents in New York, and brought together local leaders, elected officials, and community members. Jennifer Raab, President of Hunter College and host of the event, pointed out the efforts developed by Mr. Stringer to open equal opportunities in education, health, and financial services to Spanish-speaking communities in Manhattan.

The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York (MCINY) received a proclamation honoring "...its commitment to generating awareness of the richness, dynamism and cultural diversity of Mexico as a democratic, plural and creative nation." and "showcasing the uniqueness of Mexico's art and culture, and infusing New York with the variety of Mexico's traditional and contemporary cultural and artistic expressions."

Maria Elena Cabezut, Acting Director of the MCINY received the Proclamation that declared October 17th as a Day of Recognition of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York for its "very special contribution to the social and cultural scene of the Manhattan Borough since the day of its creation in 1991".



Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, Co-Executive Directo of Make the Road New York Ana Maria Archila, Columnist for the New York Daily News Juan González, Acting Director the MCINY María Elena Cabezut, President of Hunter College Jennifer Raab.

MCINY's 20TH ANNIVERSARY DVD

November 1

To celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York, a documentary was created to highlight the many activities and people that have placed Mexico at the forefront of the local cultural scene during the past two decades.

The Institute acknowledges the generous support of its friends and Board members, which have been essential for its growth and success. A copy of the DVD is enclosed - we hope you enjoy it!



THE INSTITUTE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION DURING 2011

192 Books Latinbeat Film Festival
4th Street Theatre Laundromat Gallery

92Y Tribeca Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts

American Legion Post 11 Mano a Mano: Mexican Culture Without Borders

National Fund for Culture and the Arts (FONCA)

Neuberger Museum

Americas Society McNally Jackson Books
AMH Industries Metropolitan Museum of Art

Antena Studio Mex and the City
Anthology Film Archives MoMA PS1

Armory on the Hudson Museum of Modern Art

Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP) MX Editions

Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies,

CUNY

Bowery Poetry Club

Bronx Museum

Carnegie Hall

Carrillo Gil Museum

New York Film Festival

NY Art Book Fair

NY Latino Film Festival

Casa Mezcal

Pen American Center

Celebrate Mexico Now Festival

Cinema Tropical

Performing Arts Center of New Jersey

Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas

CN Management
CONACULTA
P.J.S Exhibitions
El Museo del Barrio
Princeton University
Embassy of Spain
Printed Matter
Empire State Building
Project Paz
Feria Internacional del Libro de Guadalajara (FIL)
PULSE Art Fair

Friends of Oaxacan Folk Art (FOFA)

Gabarron Foundation Carriage House Center for Arts

Granta en Español

Queens Museum of Art

Roy Arias Theatre

Granta en Espanol School of Visual Arts

Havana Film Festival Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian

Hispanic Society SOBs

Hola Mexico Film Festival Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

Hudson on the Bowery St. John's University
Imagine Science Film Festival Steinway Hall

Instituto Cervantes Nueva York

Teatro Julio Castillo del Centro Cultural del Bosque,

International Film Festival Mexico City
International Studio and Curatorial Program (ISCP)

John Jay College Tenri Cultural Institute

King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center at NYU

Tribeca Cinemas

Kykuit: The Rockefeller Estate Weill Music Institute of Carnegie Hall
La Esquina Gallery Winter Garden, Financial Center

La MaMa Galleria Wolfsonian Museum
LARK Play Development Center Zarela Martinez

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CORPORATE & INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Gerald Feigin and Juliette Meyer

Jim Harrison

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts

Liz Murray Maria Hinojosa Ruth B. Mendez

FINANCIAL INFORMATION – MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE 2011

January 1 - December 31, 2011

FUND BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2010	\$ 313.955.18
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INCOME

Contributed Income:

 Goverment
 \$ 31,191.00

 Corporate and Individual
 \$ 76,838.00

 Total
 \$ 108,029.00

Earned Income:

 Generated Income
 \$ 460,000.00

 Earned Interest Investment
 \$ 458.00

 Total
 \$ 460,458.00

 TOTAL INCOME
 \$ 568,487.00

 Inkind contributions:
 \$ 195,000.00

GRAND TOTAL INCOME \$ 763,487.00

TOTAL INCOME + 2010 FUND BALANCE \$ 1,077,442.18

EXPENSES

Programs and Events:

Cultural Programs \$ 270,000.00

General Expenses:

 Administration
 \$ 40,000.00

 Photo & Copy Service
 \$ 240,000.00

 Total
 \$ 280,000.00

TOTAL EXPENSESInkind expenses:
\$ 550,000.00
\$ 195,000.00

GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 745,000.00

NET INCOME \$ 18,487.00

FUND BALANCE FOR DECEMBER 31, 2011 \$ 342,000.00

Note: These totals are based on an accrual basis report for the fiscal year 2011.

Figures for the month of December are estimates.

These numbers may differ from the audited report of 2011.

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