



THE MEXICAN
CULTURAL
INSTITUTE OF
NEW YORK

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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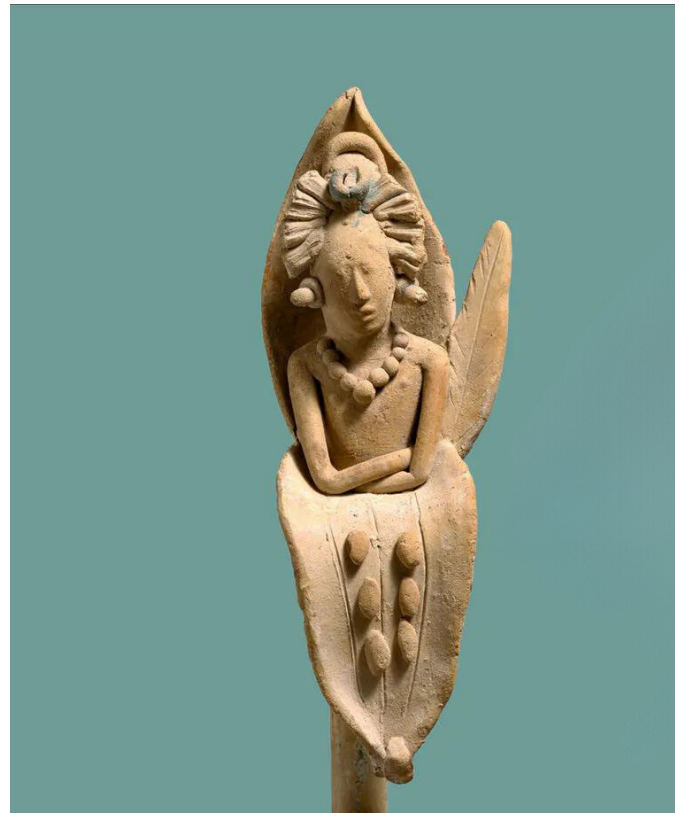
The mission of the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York is to generate, strengthen, and promote a creative, updated, plural, and dynamic image of Mexican art and culture. This mission aims to foster a better understanding and appreciation of Mexico and its identity.



CULTURAL PROJECTS

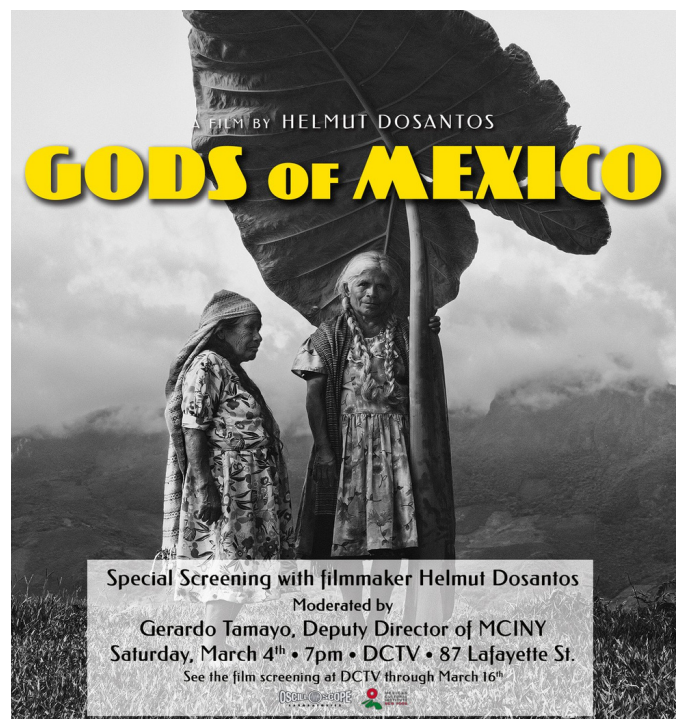
Virtual Tour “Presentando el arte Maya y sus deidades en Nueva York”

From November 1st, 2022, to April 2nd, 2023, the Metropolitan Museum of Art hosted the temporary exhibition, Lives of the Gods: Divinity in Maya Art. Displaying nearly 100 rarely-seen masterpieces and recent discoveries, the exhibit depicted the life cycle of gods from Mexico, Guatemala, and El Salvador in diverse media. Artworks ranged from monumental to miniature, showcasing the continuous existence of these deities, from birth to transformative representations as flowers or creatures of the night. A virtual tour featured Mexican archaeologist Dr. Laura Filloy sharing insights about Maya art with Consul General Jorge Islas López.



Gods of Mexico

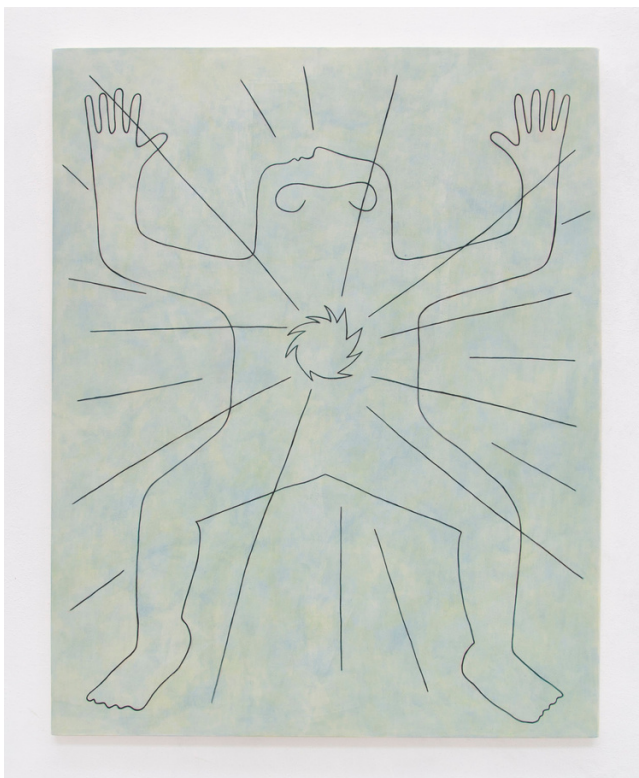
GODS OF MEXICO, a visually stunning film by Helmut Dosantos, explored the diverse landscapes of rural Mexico with rich colors and hypnotic black-and-white scenes. The series of screenings, held from March 3rd to March 16th, included a Q&A session moderated by MCINY with the filmmaker.



Sebastian Hidalgo “Encounters with Neptune”



From March 23rd to April 22nd, 2023, Fortnight Institute presented "Encounters with Neptune," the first U.S. solo exhibition by Mexican artist Sebastián Hidalgo. Centered on chaos and mandalas, the exhibition featured Hidalgo's paintings portraying Neptune as an enigmatic figure, symbolizing the unknown and serving as both the farthest known planet and a mythological being. The works sparked internal dialogues and silent encounters with this intriguing representation.



Aliza Nisenbaum "Queens, Lindo y Querido"



From April 23rd to September 10th, the Queens Museum hosted the Spring 2023 exhibition, "Aliza Nisenbaum: Queens, Lindo y Querido." Inspired by the Vicente Fernández song "Mexico, Lindo y Querido," the exhibition explored the artist's extensive engagement with the people of the Queens Museum and Corona neighborhood, emphasizing cultural expressions through material culture. The inauguration included an opening celebration with art-making workshops, live music, and artist-led tours.



Viva el Cinco de Mayo: Festival del Son

The Cinco de Mayo family celebration at the Kupferberg Center for the Arts featured 50 performers, including ensembles such as Tlen Huicani and Mariachi Real De Mexico. The Festival del Son showcased three essential Mexican "Son" musical styles: Son Huasteco, Son Jalisciense, and Son Jarocho, celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Ballet Folklórico Mexicano de Nueva York danced with all three groups, presenting beautiful regional dances and dresses.



Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan at Grand Central Station

On May 17th, Consul General Jorge Islas López welcomed Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan at the Consulate General of Mexico in New York, recognizing their artistic contribution during the "México desde la Raíz" tour. Joined by Mariachi Internacional Tapatío de Álvaro Paulino and Mariachi Real de México de Ramón Ponce, 30 mariachis performed classic melodies at Grand Central Station, offering a unique and emotional experience for New Yorkers.



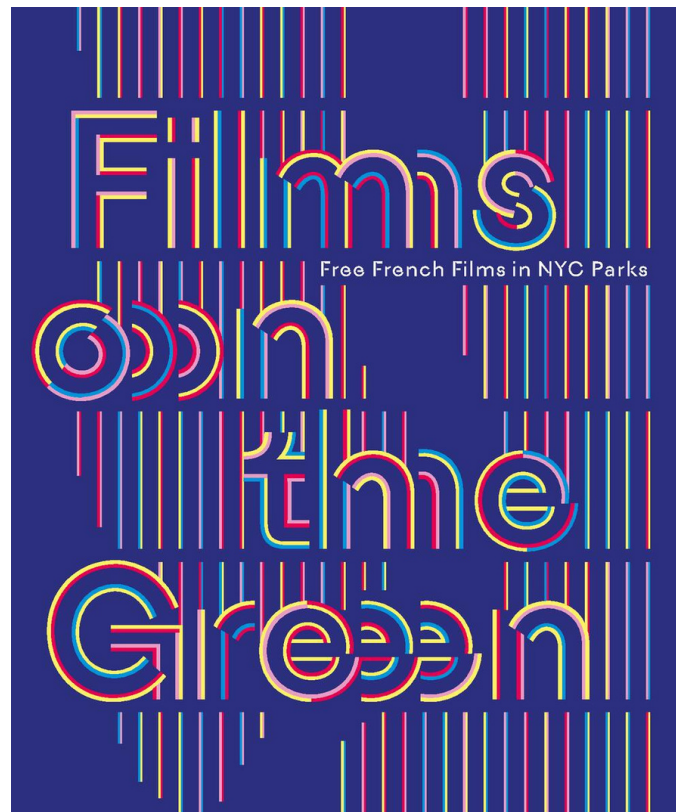
Mexican Jewish Film Festival

From April 2nd to April 5th, 2023, the Tribeca Synagogue hosted the first Mexican Jewish Film Festival in New York City. The festival showcased acclaimed Mexican films exclusively created by Jewish directors, writers, actors, or producers, including works like "Ensayo de un Crimen" and "Tempestad." The event was made possible through collaboration with partners such as Secretaría de Cultura, Consulado General de México en Nueva York, Mexican Cultural Institute of New York, and other key organizations.



Films on the Green

This year, we sustained our partnership with Films on the Green, integrating a Mexican-related film into their complimentary film programming. The theme for this year focused on "the art of dance in film." We presented "French Cancan," featuring the esteemed Mexican actress María Félix. The screening took place on July 14, 2023, at 8:30 pm at Seward Park Conservancy.



Carnegie Hall Citywide: Magos Herrera ft. The Knights

Mexican jazz singer Magos Herrera celebrated her album "Aire" with a performance alongside her sextet and The Knights chamber orchestra. The album, featuring Latin American classics and new compositions commissioned during the pandemic, debuted with a free concert in Bryant Park, supported by various organizations including Bryant Park, Carnegie Hall, and the Mexican Cultural Institute. Afterwards, the Mexican Cultural Institute in New York held a reception at the Octavio Paz Gallery on July 21st.



Welcome to Baja California, New York

Baja California, the leading producer of Mexican wine, invited New Yorkers to a two-day extravaganza of adventure and culture on July 22 and 23. The vibrant state showcased the essence of its natural wonders, including islands, beaches, deserts, canyons, mountains, and extinct volcanoes. The event featured craft markets, gastronomic tastings, and musical performances at Lincoln Center. The grand finale included Baja California's vibrant spirit on the iconic screens of Times Square, leaving a lasting impression on all who witnessed it.





CORAZON MIGRANTE TOUR BINACIONAL 2023

The Consulate General of Mexico in New York presented the Corazón Migrante Binational Tour 2023 exhibition at the Octavio Paz Gallery from July 10 to 25. The exhibition aimed to construct the Mexican migrant identity in the U.S., highlighting elements of cultural heritage through the artistic expression of 23 Mexican migrant artists. It emphasized resilience, pride, and the preservation of Mexican identity.



Feria Internacional del Libro en Nueva York 2023

The 5th FILNYC in 2023 highlighted literary brilliance with a dialogue at Columbia University and continued exploration at Casa Hispánica. The weekend at NYU's King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center celebrated Spanish-language literary excellence, showcasing literature's unifying power in the United States. The Mexican Cultural Institute in New York participated as a sponsor.



Celebrate Mexico Now 20th Edition

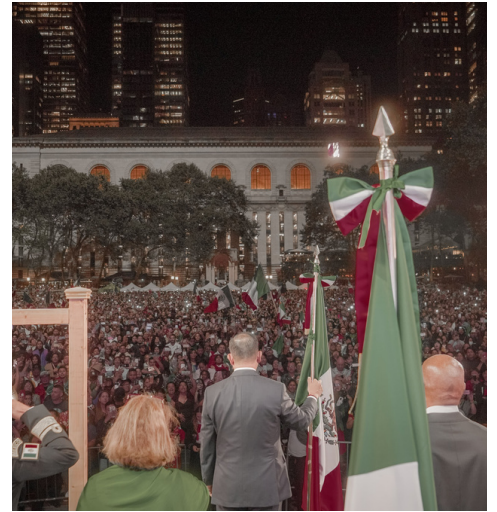
In 2023, the Mexican Cultural Institute collaborated with Celebrate México Now for its 20th Edition, featuring vibrant performances, discussions, and showcases from November 14th to 21st. Grammy winner Antonio Sánchez, fusion artist Ampersan, and Mayan rapper Pat Boy were among the highlights, enriching New York City's cultural scene with Mexican arts and heritage.



INDEPENDENCE DAY AT BRYANT PARK

On the morning of September 15th, our Consul General, Jorge Islas López, accompanied by special guest Mexican actress and singer Thalia, as well as Brigadier Victor Omar Rodríguez and Admiral Juan Ramon Hernandez Carmona from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the UN, illuminated the iconic Empire State Building in the colours of the Mexican flag. The Grito de la Independencia at Bryant Park in the afternoon drew over 12 thousand Mexican compatriots, featuring an honour guard by Mayor Eric Adams. The event showcased Mexican representation through performances by groups like Tlen Huicani, Mariachi Real de México, and Ballet Folklórico Mexicano of New York. The “Othli” award was presented to Guadalupe Romero for her outstanding work in education for the Mexican diaspora, and attendees explored a gastronomic sample featuring typical foods from various Mexican states, including Oaxaca, Sinaloa, and Jalisco.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7hyk9nPFPCs>





DIA DE MUERTOS

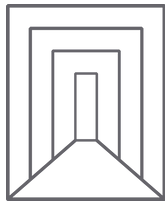
For the third consecutive year, the Mexican Consulate commemorated Día de los Muertos in Times Square in New York. The activities centered around art and tradition, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a connection with our loved ones. This year the celebration featured a temporary exhibition of 6 Catrinas Monumentales from Atlixco. The inauguration gathered the Mexican community for typical crafts, music, and dances, including an annual walk with Consul General Jorge Islas López and the Mexican community. The celebration extended to Manhattan's Nomad neighborhood, with a special event near the iconic FlatIron building, followed by a distinguished reception at Gracie Mansion hosted by NYC Mayor Eric Adams. The series of events concluded with a public music festival in Times Square.





OPEN DOORS

Open Doors is an outreach initiative by the Mexican Cultural Institute aiming to forge alliances with community organizations, museums, and cultural institutions in New York. The goal is to bring the Mexican community closer to the city's cultural centers through free access to events and guided tours in Spanish. The pilot project, starting in 2017, involved exhibitions like "Cristóbal de Villalpando" at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and continued with visits to other displays. Open Doors has engaged 28 community organizations, offering access to over 400 participants, and a survey revealed that 80% of those were first-time museum visitors. Recognizing the underrepresentation of Latino heritage in U.S. museums (only 9%), Open Doors addresses this gap, promoting diversity, inclusion, education, and enjoyment. The program supports events focusing on Mexican and Latino art, strengthening community bonds and cultural identity. Amidst societal challenges, Open Doors provides avenues for diversity and education. With an estimated 1.6 million Mexicans in the Tri-State area, the initiative aims to expand outreach, ensuring more community members can enjoy cultural programs in New York. The collaboration between museums and communities is already established; the call is for support to facilitate broader access. In 2023, the Mexican Cultural Institute in New York hosted the Open Doors edition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), and the Queens Museum.



OPEN
DOORS
MCINY



SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

INSTAGRAM

3,434 Followers

FACEBOOK

14,000 Followers

NEWSLETTER

3,957 Subscribers