

BMoCA



Fall 2019 Exhibition

Adriana Corral

October 3 – January 19, 2020

Unearthed/Desenterrado

Guest curated by Cortney Lane Stell

Adriana Corral: *Unearthed / Desenterrado*

Unearthed/Desenterrado is a solo exhibition of Texas-based artist Adriana Corral. By investigating the intersection between art and activism, Corral uses the emotional and symbolic impact of art to challenge racial and economic injustices. The installations, drawings, and sculptures on view embody universal themes of loss, human rights violations, memory, and erased historical narratives.

Through her diligent, research-based practice, Corral engages directly with archives, historic sites, and experts and connects with historians, librarians, anthropologists, writers, journalists, gender scholars, human rights attorneys, and the families of victims. This thorough research provides her with vital data for the conception of her artworks.

The artist's minimal approach formally involves concepts of concealment and memory. With elegance, simplicity, and an openness to materiality, Corral's works portray a meditative tone. In this exhibition, she guides viewers to experience a reflective relationship in response to the charged subjects.

Unearthed/Desenterrado is co-produced by Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art and Black Cube, a nomadic contemporary art museum.



Above and Cover Image: Adriana Corral, *Unearthed/Desenterrado* (detail), 2018. Installation photograph, Rio Vista Farm. Image courtesy of the artist and Black Cube.

Artworks:

West Gallery (downstairs / clockwise starting immediately to the left)

Latitudes, 2019

blind debossed prints of the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Spanish version)

Unearthed: Desenterrado, 2018

embroidered golden and bald eagle on white cotton flag

Central to the exhibition is this large-scale white cotton flag that shares the exhibition title, *Unearthed/Desenterrado*. This work was originally a site-specific artwork produced by Black Cube, a nomadic art museum, in early 2018. The flag was first displayed outdoors, marking the historic grounds of the Rio Vista Farm in Socorro, Texas, along the U.S.-Mexico border. Currently, the flag is touring the country in indoor museum exhibitions.

Once visible from the El Paso-Juárez horizon, the flag stood as a marker for the Rio Vista Farm, a facility most notably recognized as a key processing center for the Bracero Program. Established by the U.S. federal government during World War II, the Bracero Program is known as one of the largest foreign worker programs in the country's history. Between 1951 and 1964, Rio Vista Farm processed more than 80,000 Mexican workers per year. Today, the program is described by many people as a period of "legalized slavery," according to findings from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. On either side of the flag, Corral has embroidered the illustrations of a "Mexican" golden eagle and an "American" bald eagle, each emblematic of patriotism for the respective nation. By calling attention to this overlooked part of American history, this work endeavors to acknowledge unknown human rights violations and to inspire deeper conversations about our history—and future—of border control along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Latitudes, 2016

blind debossed prints of the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (English version)

Untitled, 2018

soil on 6" wood panels, soil collected from Rio Vista Farm

Untitled, 2019

soil on 8" wood panels, soil collected from Rio Vista Farm

Rio Vista Blueprint, 2019

soil pastel stick and pencil drawing on wall

Union Works Gallery (Upstairs)

Untitled, 2012

handmade black lace body bag

This sculpture is part of a series that explores histories of political violence against women throughout the Americas. The empty body bag memorializes the widespread phenomenon of disappearances of women and girls, also known as femicide.



Adriana Corral, *Untitled*, 2012. Installation photograph. Image courtesy of the artist.

Artist and Curator Biographies

Adriana Corral received her MFA from The University of Texas at Austin and her BFA at The University of Texas at El Paso. She was invited to attend the 106th session of the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland (2015), and was awarded a Joan Mitchell Foundation Emerging Artist Grant (2016). Corral was included in "Artists to Watch 18 Exceptional New Talents" by *Modern Painters* (2017). Corral's residencies include the McDowell Residency (2014), Künstlerhaus Bethanien Residency in Berlin, Germany (2016), the International Artist-in-Residence at Artpace (2016), a fellowship at Black Cube, a nomadic art museum (2017), and, most recently, a fellowship at the Archives of American Art and History at the Smithsonian Institution (2018) and a residency at the Joan Mitchell Foundation. Her work is currently on view at MASS MoCA in North Adams, Massachusetts and the New Orleans Museum of Art in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Cortney Lane Stell, Guest Curator, is the Executive Director + Chief Curator of Black Cube, a nomadic contemporary art museum based in Denver, Colorado. She has held an independent curatorial practice since 2006, which has included curating numerous exhibitions nationally and internationally for museums, university galleries, biennials and art events. Stemming from a philosophical interest in art as communication, Stell has organized exhibitions that focus on artworks experimental in both conceptual and material nature, including exhibitions with artists such as Liam Gillick, Cyprien Gaillard, Daniel Arsham, and Shirley Tse. Stell holds a MA from the European Graduate School in Switzerland where she is also a PhD candidate in Media Communications.

Exhibition-related Programs

Opening Reception

October 3

5:30pm member preview

6:30-8:30pm free public reception

Adriana Corral Artist Talk

Hear from Exhibiting Artist Adriana Corral and Guest Curator Cortney Lane Stell about issues of social justice and the inspiration behind *Unearthed/Desenterrado*.

October 6

Doors open at 4:30pm

5-6pm

Free

Q&A with Artist Gretchen Marie Schaefer

An interview with Gretchen Marie Schaefer exploring her work that combines geographic abstraction with notions of perception.

November 21

6-7:30pm

\$12 / \$8 members

3rd Law Dance / Theater Immersive Performance

3rd Law Co-Directors Katie Elliott and Paul Fowler create original choreography and a soundscore inspired by the work of Gretchen Marie Schaefer.

January 16

6-7pm, 7-8pm

\$12 / \$8 members

Current & Upcoming Exhibitions

BMOCA @ Macky

Helen Zughaib: *Stories My Father Told Me*

August 21 - November 24, 2019

InsideOut

Pard Morrison: *Heartmouth*

August 17, 2018 - December 31, 2019

Spring 2020 Exhibitions

Night Reels: *The Work of Stacey Steers*

January 30 - May 25, 2020

Guest Curated by Kim Dickey

Margaretta Gilboy: *A Retrospective*

January 30 - May 25, 2020

Guest Curated by Simon Zalkind

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Boulder Museum of
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