

BMOCA



Summer 2018 Present Box

PERILOUS JOURNEYS:

July 10 - July 29, 2018

**Guillermo Arias
Carlos Fresquez
David Taylor
Mark Klett
Philip Zimmerman
Motus Theater**

PERILOUS JOURNEYS

PERILOUS JOURNEYS is an exhibition offering glimpses into the contentious history of the U.S. southern border and the obstacles facing those who cross it seeking asylum from war, poverty, and persecution. David Taylor documents the chronically shifting 690-mile line between the United States and Mexico with photographs of the 1891-1895 border monuments erected after the Mexican-American War, illustrating how political boundaries and national identities transform over time. Mark Klett records detritus left by desperate travelers moving north across the ancient, treacherous Camino del Diablo, now located in Arizona's deadly Goldwater Bombing Range. Guillermo Arias chronicles how people live and cope with *el cerco* (the fence) from the Mexican side. Denver Chicano artist Carlos Fresquez, working with DACA recipient and student Lorena Aranda, produced the exhibition's centerpiece, "Know Your Rights," a bilingual, blood-red mural addressing justice and the search for safety in these fearful times. Two artist books are on view: *El Camino Del Diablo*, by Mark Klett, and Philip Zimmerman's serene yet disturbing *Sanctus Sonorensis*.

JENNIFER HEATH - Curator

Jennifer Heath is an independent scholar, art curator, award-winning cultural journalist, and activist. She is the author or editor of twelve books of fiction and non-fiction, among them *The Scimitar and the Veil: Extraordinary Women of Islam*; *A House White with Sorrow*; *The Veil: Women Writers on Its History, Lore, and Politics*; *The Echoing Green: The Garden in Myth and Memory*; *On the Edge of Dream: The Women of Celtic Myth and Legend*; and *Black Velvet: The Art We Love to Hate* (a touring show and catalogue lauded by the Smithsonian). In 2016, she conceived, directed, and co-curated a massive Boulder County-wide exhibition, *Celebration! A History of the Visual Arts in Boulder* (HOVAB). Many of her art exhibitions tour throughout the United States, in Europe and Africa.



GUILLERMO ARIAS

Guillermo Arias began his professional life as a freelance photojournalist in 1993 in Tepic, Mexico. He worked as a staffer and freelance photographer for newspapers in Tepic and Guadalajara, then worked for the Associated Press from 2001 to 2011. From 2011 to 2016, he was the staff photographer at Xinhua News Agency Latin America bureau. He is currently based in Tijuana, Northern Mexico, working for several media outlets including Agence France Presse, Bloomberg, and The New York Times, among others. The project *El cerco* (2014-2017) was supported by Mexico's Culture Secretary through the *Sistema Nacional de Creadores de Arte* 2014-2017 art program. Arias is the recipient of numerous awards and a member of the National Press Photographers Association.

CARLOS FRESQUEZ, with LORENA ARANDA

Carlos Fresquez is a leading Chicano artist who has exhibited his drawings, prints, installations, and paintings throughout the United States and abroad. He has lectured about Chicano Art History and his own artwork at many colleges, universities, galleries, and art centers. His numerous touring exhibitions include The Colorado Artist Fellowship Awards Exhibitions, the *Chicano Codices*, *Encountering Art of the Americas*, *Rasquachismo*, *Chicano Aesthetics*, and *Black Velvet: The Art We Love to Hate*. Fresquez has been honored with many awards and is an Associate Professor at Metropolitan State University of Denver. His work is also on view through September 14 at the Boulder Public Library's *ORIGINS*, a companion exhibition to *PERILOUS JOURNEYS*.

Lorena Aranda is a Metropolitan State University of Denver student studying art and pursuing her minor in Spanish. As a DACA recipient, she hopes to paint her culture, her ideas, and dreams to tell people she is more than her status. Born in Durango, Mexico, she was brought to the United States at only seven months old. Feeling as though she is neither from here nor there, she is able to find herself through art and digging into her cultural roots.

MARK KLETT

Mark Klett is a photographer who worked as a geologist before turning to art practice. His primary research interests include landscape photography, the merger of art practice with history and the social and physical sciences, creative projects that explore relationships between time, change, and perception, and projects that examine the language of photographic media through technology. He has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Buhl Foundation, and the Japan/US Friendship Commission. His work has been exhibited and published in the United States and internationally and is held in over eighty museum collections worldwide. In addition to *El Camino del Diablo*, he is the author of seventeen books, including *Drowned River, the Death and Rebirth of Glen Canyon on the Colorado*, with Byron Wolfe and Rebecca Solnit (Radius Books, 2018).

DAVID TAYLOR

David Taylor was awarded a 2008 Guggenheim Fellowship and has released two monographs, *Working the Line* (Radius Books, 2010) and *Monuments: 276 Views of the United States-Mexico Border* (Radius Books and Nevada Museum of Art, 2015). A member of the photography faculty at the University of Arizona School of Art, Taylor earned a BFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and an MFA from the University of Oregon. He engages with place at a granular level and presents a complex territory frequently marked by contradictory realities. His work reveals the border, a region that has preoccupied him across the past ten years, as a series of distinct locations organized around a common feature, entirely dependent on context; it derives its meaning from those who interact with it.

PHILIP ZIMMERMAN

Philip Zimmerman is an artist who has worked since 1975, primarily in the medium of artists' books, usually photographic works. He is a faculty member in the University of Arizona's College of Fine Arts. He taught at Purchase College, State University of New York, for twenty-four years before moving to Arizona.

Left Image: Mark Klett, *Jacket on Migrant Trail*, 2014, Digital Print.

Right Image: David Taylor, *Border Monument No. 122A*, 2007-2015, Digital Print.

Present Box is a series of temporary exhibitions that invite artists to transform BMOCA's lobby and front entrance into innovative installations, performances, and events that last less than a month. Presented two times a year, the site-specific projects are intended to encourage artists to create work outside their comfort zone and to foster interactive participation. The exhibitions encourage experimentation and urge artists to test ideas and explore different approaches. Present Box exhibitions are always free and open to the public.

Present Box Events

Opening Reception

July 18, 5:30-7:00pm

Free

Present Box Sponsors

Lovedy Barbatelli

Joan Markowitz

***Perilous Journeys* Sponsors**

Avondale Trust

Audrey & Andy Franklin

Community Foundation Serving Boulder County

Cover Image: Guillermo Arias, *Untitled - Ciudad Juarez*, 2016, Digital Print.

BMOCA

Boulder Museum of
Contemporary Art

1750 13th Street
Boulder, Colorado 80302
303.443.2122
BMOCA.org