

Press Contact

Erika Hirugami, MA. MAAB • Curator 424.253.6179 • CuratorLove@gmail.com

Gallery Contact

Anna Carnes • Gallery Manager 404.471.6073 • acarnes@agnesscott.edu

Exhibition on view Sep 15 - Dec 1, 2023 Gallery Hours M-F 12 PM- 4 PM

Opening Reception | Friday, Sept 15 | 6:00-8:00pm

Dalton Gallery | 141 E College Ave, Decatur, GA 30030

"I must trust my own recollections. I must also depend on the recollections of others." Toni Morrison

UNDOC+ ARTISTS

Jackie Amézquita Yehimi Cambrón Nube Cruz David Cuatlacuatl Federico Cuatlacuatl Jose Ibarra Rizo Martha Osornio Ruiz Isidro Pérez García Elizabeth Pineda Karla Rosas Luis Alvaro Sahagun Nicole Solis-Sison alejandro sosa

RECORDAR / ANHELAR AESTHETICS OF UNDOCUMENTEDNESS

By Undoc+ Curator Erika Hirugami, MA. MAAB.

The artworks in this exhibition are a multiplicity of remembrances that together outline the embodiment of undocumentedness as a mediation of hope. In this exhibition the recollections of Jackie Amézquita, Yehimi Cambrón, Nube Cruz, David Cuatlacuatl Federico Cuatlacuatl, Jose Ibarra Rizo, Martha Osornio Ruiz, Isidro Pérez García, Elizabeth Pineda, Karla Rosas, Luis Alvaro Sahagun, Nicole Solis-Sison, and alejandro sosa converge interdependently to speak of memory, family, community, migration, spirituality, indigeneity, care, and futurity from an undocumented axis. Through the collective cacophony of visual depictions in this exhibition, artists in the **undoc+spectrum** confront their inner longing while honoring and affirming their cultural heritages. It is through collective recollections, testimonios, and recounting of oral traditions that this community thrives, is cared for, and stays safe.

Individuals in the undoc+ spectrum have lived or are currently living undocumented.

RECORDAR / ANHELAR

AESTHETICS OF UNDOCUMENTEDNESS

Curated by Undoc+ Curator Erika Hirugami, MA. MAAB.

CURATOR

ARTISTS

Erika Hirugami, MA. MAAB.

Hirugami is a first-generation Mexican immigrant, formerly undocumented.

She holds a MAAB from the Sotheby's Institute of Art, in conjunction with the Drucker School of Management and Getty Leadership Institute at Claremont Graduate University, and an MA in Chicanx Studies from UCLA. Hirugami also holds BAs in the fields of Art History, Chicano Studies, and Mexican Studies from UCLA. She is currently a lecturer and doctoral candidate at UCLA, where she challenges the aesthetics of undocumentedness through contemporary Latinx art.

Hirugami is the founder and CEO of CuratorLove, the ED at AHSC, a Professor at CGU and SMC, Fellow at Arts4LA, CCI and NALAC NLI Fellow. As a Getty and Kress Foundation Fellow, she has developed curatorial statements at museums across Mexico and United States. After being a Public Art Curator for the Department of Cultural Affairs in the City of Los Angeles, Hirugami became the Curatorial Director for the Ronald McDonald House Charities and has led various galleries while becoming a visiting lecturer for Universities across the country.

She has curated exhibitions for multiple spaces across the globe, and her written work has been published internationally.

CuratorLove.com @Hirugami x @CuratorLove

Jackie Amézquita, MFA (b.1985)

Amézquita was born in Quetzaltengo, Guatemala, and migrated to the US in 2003. Her multidisciplinary practice converges a diasporic family history, with personal experiences as a formerly undocumented immigrant in the US and unweaving collectively shared social memory. Sourcing natural materials from significant historical migration sites and drawing from indigenous mythologies, Amézquita holds space for communal grieving and human connection; giving birth to new modes of resistance and challenging systematic oppression, marginalization, and exploitation. Amézquita holds an AA in Visual Communications from LAVC, a BFA from ArtCenter College of Design, and a MFA from UCLA. Amézquita has exhibited with The Hammer Museum, LACE, LAND, 18th St Art Center, The Armory Center of the Arts, Vincent Price Art Museum, The Annenberg Space for Photography, Human Resources Los Angeles, and Museum of Art and Design, amongst others.

She is the recipient of the Mohn Land Award (2023), Andy Warhol Foundation for the Arts Los Angeles Art Fund (2022), and National Performance Network Fund (2022). Amézquita has been featured in the Los Angeles Times, hyperallergic, Walker Art Center magazine, and many other publications. She currently lives and works in Los Angeles, California—the unceded land of the Tongva people.

JackieAmezquita.com @jackieamezquita

Yehimi Cambrón BA

Cambrón is a DACAmented artist and activist based in Atlanta and born in San Antonio Villalongín, Michoacán, México. She became undocumented at seven years old when she immigrated to Georgia, where she grew up on Buford Hwy—the multicultural heart of Atlanta.

Cambrón's work centers immigrants and predominantly reflects the experiences of Undocumented Americans. Her landmark murals in Atlanta historically assert the presence and humanity of immigrants, depict the intersectionality and complexity of their stories, and challenge the white male-centered history that dictates who is worthy of a public, monumental celebration.

Cambrón earned a full-ride scholarship from the Goizueta Foundation to attend Agnes Scott College and graduated with a B.A. in Studio Art in 2014. In 2015, Cambrón was accepted into Teach for America (TFA) as a corps member, becoming the first of two DACAmented educators placed in Georgia by TFA, and serving on TFA's DACA Advisory Board for two years. After completing her TFA commitment as an elementary school teacher, Cambrón returned to her alma mater, Cross Keys High School, to teach art from 2017-2019. She is currently a full-time artist, activist, and national public speaker.

YehimiCambron.com @ycambron



RECORDAR / ANHELAR

AESTHETICS OF UNDOCUMENTEDNESS

Curated by Undoc+ Curator Erika Hirugami, MA. MAAB.

Nube Cruz

Is a self taught artist and student currently at UCLA studying Fine Arts. Their work explores themes of indigenous histories and aesthetics and merges them with techno futuristic elements. Their body of work visually challenges western narratives. Through their work they construct and deconstruct ideas of the settler state by incorporating interdisciplinary methods that play with concepts such as magical realism, surrealism, video, sculpture, photography and indigenous futurism.

Currently they are exploring how art can contain and reformat ideas of borders and sovereignty that are not just ascribed through literal borders but borders that are created through different colonial apparatus. They are exploring the disruption and reclamation of body autonomy, queerness, and creation of new mythologies via their current investigations. They hope to create new worlds through their art practice and rebuild what is not easily seen. They are also a researcher currently with the Mobile Indigenous Archive Project at UCLA and are a community activist with local tribal communities as well as transnational Yaqui cultural revitalization grassroots projects, and Oaxacan diasporic indigenous communities.

NubeCruz.com @nubae.jpg

David Cuatlacuatl, MFA (1989-2017)

Born in Coapan, Cholula, Puebla, Mexico. Lived and worked in the United States. Lover of tacos al pastor and atole de calabaza. Wanted to be a box fighter at an early age. David received his BFA from Ball State University and his MFA from Pennsylvania State University.

DavidCuatlacuatl.com @david_cuatlacuatl

Federico Cuatlacuatl, MFA

Cuatlacuatl is an artist born in San Francisco Coapan, Cholula, Puebla, Mexico. Federico's work is invested in disseminating topics of Nahua indigenous immigration, social art practice, and cultural sustainability. Building from his own experience growing up as an undocumented immigrant and previously holding DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), Federico's creative practice centers on the intersectionality of indigeneity and immigration under a pressing Anthropocene. At the core of his most recent research and artistic production is the intersection of transborder indigeneity, migrant indigenous diasporas, and Nahua futurisms. Federico's independent productions have been screened in various national and international film festivals as well as exhibitions in museums and galleries worldwide. As founder and director of the Rasquache

Artist Residency in Puebla, Mexico, he actively stays involved in socially engaged works and binational endeavors.

Cuatlacuatl.com @rasquache_tolchikaualistli

José Ibarra Rizo, BA (b. 1992)

A Mexican-American multidisciplinary artist living and working in Atlanta, GA. His work primarily focuses on identity and is currently exploring the migrant experience in the American South. José is the recipient of the inaugural MINT + ACP Emerging Artist Fellowship, one of three awardees for the 2022 Atlanta Artadia Awards, and one of three winners of the 2023-2024 Working Artist Project for MOCA GA. His work lives in the permanent collection of the High Museum of Art, the Virginia Museum of Fine Art, and clients include Rolling Stone and TIME Magazine.

JoselbarraRizo.com @ joseibarrarizo

Martha Osornio Ruiz, MFA

Martha Osornio Ruiz is an interdisciplinary artist born in Veracruz, Mexico, raised in Chicago, Illinois. Since moving to the Chicago, Osornio Ruiz started her art career after graduating with her BA in Cinema and Photography & MFA in Sculpture from the School of Art and Design at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Collaborating on various community projects,



RECORDAR / ANHELAR

AESTHETICS OF UNDOCUMENTEDNESS

Curated by Undoc+ Curator Erika Hirugami, MA. MAAB.

installations, and video performances. Her current work focuses on her experience of first generation immigrant and her DACAmented status. She currently teaches film courses at HP Film Skool in Chicago.

MOsornioRuiz.com @ m_osornioruiz

Isidro Pérez García, MFA

Is a borderless artist from Santa Ana, CA and Atotonilco El Grande, Hidalgo, México. He works across various artistic media, approaching his work from his positionality as a formerly undocumented migrant and a campesino urbano. From this perspective, he makes art as a networked and layered process of "thinking with things" in a visual and material way, with a focus on how his art work and practice can contribute to anti-colonial histories and narratives. He has a BFA from CalArts and his MFA from UCSD, where his thesis work was awarded the David Antin Prize from UCSD and the Graduating Artist Award from ICA San Diego. He was recently named a California Arts Council, Established Artists Fellow grantee, and his work will also be featured in a special project later this year with the US Library of Congress. His artwork has been shown at The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture (Riverside, CA), ICA San Diego, the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History. the University of Virginia, and UCLA's New Wight Gallery, among others. IsidroPerezGarcia.com @chiloteeeee

Elizabeth Z. Pineda, MFA

Originally from Mexico City, Elizabeth Z. Pineda is an emerging artist based in Surprise, Arizona. Her work explores issues of home, identity, belonging, erasure, and the tragedy of migrant deaths that occur in the Arizona desert landscape. Branching off from her own immigrant experience Pineda speaks visually of community; touching on language barriers, culture, and society. Pineda has an MFA in Photography from ASU.

@elizabethzpineda_fotografia

Karla Rosas

Karlinche, a first-generation undocumented immigrant, painter, illustrator, and language justice worker based in New Orleans.

Karla's illustrations have found their way into The L.A. Times' "Latinx Files." a monthly tarot column for Antigravity Magazine, the Hood Museum Collection, UC San Diego's Undocumented Student Center, the Flowers on the Inside postcard campaign in partnership with CultureStrike, Casa Arcoiris, and Forward Together; United We Dream's Immigrant Made zine and banner-making collaborations with el Congreso de Jornaleros and the NOLA Peoples' Assembly. Karla's paintings have been shown in The New York Times Style Magazine and Salamander Magazine. In 2019, they were awarded the inaugural Define American Immigrant Artist Fellowship, one of eight artists

selected nationally. Karla was a Fall/Winter 2022 Artist-in-Residence at the Joan Mitchell Center.

Maricosas.com @ karlinche_

Luis Sahagun, MFA (b. 1982)

Born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, he creates paintings, performances, and sculptures that confront the palpable inescapability of race, transforming them into acts of cultural reclamation. As the grandson of a Curandera and a practitioner of Curanderismo, Luis makes art that conjures indigenous spiritualities to embody personal histories, cultural resistance, and colonial disruption. As a formerly undocumented immigrant and laborer, Luis reveals the aesthetics of relocation and transgenerational trauma by utilizing building materials such as silicone, lumber, drywall, concrete, and hardware - symbols representing working class immigrants.

Luis has exhibited widely at venues including the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, the Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art (Roswell, NM), Latchkey Gallery NYC, Charlie James Gallery (Los Angeles), Arvika Art Gallery (Sweden), The National Museum of Mexican Art (Chicago), EXPO Chicago, and the Chicago Cultural Center, among others. His work has been examined in publications including Artforum, the Los Angeles Times, Newcity, New American Paintings, and the Chicago Tribune. His practice has been spotlighted as having a unique voice helping to



RECORDAR / ANHELAR

AESTHETICS OF UNDOCUMENTEDNESS

Curated by Undoc+ Curator Erika Hirugami, MA. MAAB.

shape, shift, and touch the world on radio, podcasts, and television networks such as MundoFOX, NBC, UNIVISION and WBEZ-NPR. Sahagun has held residencies at the Lucas Artists Residency Program at Montalvo Arts Center, Saratoga, CA; Roswell, NM; Oaxaca, Mexico; the Chicago Artist Coalition; Mana Contemporary in Miami; and was an Artist in Residence for Critical Race Studies at Michigan State University. His work is included in the Fidelity Collection of Boston, Alta Med Collection of Los Angeles, the Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, Junhwan Ko Collection, among others. Sahagun received his undergraduate degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and his MFA from Northern Illinois University. He is represented by Latchkey Gallery in New York City, and is a 3Arts awardee and a 2023 United States Artist Fellow.

LuisSahagun.com @luis_alvaro_sahagun

Nicole Solis-Sison, BFA

Multi-racial Filipinx visual artist, writer, producer, and creative director. Her work focuses on cultural equity, diversity, and sustainability in digital discourse across the art, media, and film industries. Nicole is a proud founding member of the Undocumented Filmmakers Collective, a nationwide organization that tackles systemic inequities facing undocumented immigrants in the media field. Nicole received her BFA at the University of California, Berkeley. She is the recipient of the 2016 Eisner Award for the Highest Achievement in the Arts. More recently, Nicole is a 2022 Define American Fellow and 2022 Sundance Asian American Fellow.

NicoleSolisSison.com @nicolesolissison

alejandro sosa

Is a Mexico-born (b. 1995), undocumented (since 2007) human/alien hybrid currently living in Los Angeles, CA. Their videos expose the absurdity of institutional and societal beliefs about migrants, places of power, and nations. As someone with a status of "alien" according to the US, sosa's lived experience is marred by limitation, but through a dgaf attitude they have grown to make fun of things as a coping mechanism. Their work mainly exists on youtube and vimeo, and other musings exist on instagram.

sosa is currently a PhD student at UCLA, studying Latin American and Latinx art, focusing on modern and contemporary work, especially new/digital/virtual media.

@beanfrijol

Join the conversation #AestheticsOfUndocumentedness

Agnes Scott College is a private inclusive women's liberal arts college in Decatur, GA, also offering co-ed graduate programs. The college was established in 1889 with a distinctive mission: to educate women for the betterment of their families and the elevation of their region. Today, that mission has evolved into a commitment to educate women from around the world to "think deeply, live honorably and engage the intellectual and social challenges of their times." Widening the vision of its founders while remaining grounded in its original mission, Agnes Scott continues to provide its students with an edge for achievement in all areas.

The Margaret Virginia Philip Art Endowment fund was established through the generosity of M. Virginia Philip `61 to support periodic Dalton Gallery exhibitions held approximately every four years with related programming. Honoring the donor's special interest in outsider and selftaught artists and artists from underserved communities, the Dalton Gallery gratefully acknowledges Ms. Philip's generosity in making this exhibition possible.

Daltongallery.agnesscott.org @DaltonGallery @ agnesscottcollege

