



516
ARTS



PUERTO RICO: Defying Darkness

Exhibition & Public Programs

August – October 2018 • Albuquerque, New Mexico

Art
Music
Spoken Word
Cuisine
Guest Speakers
Workshops



Puerto Rico: Defying Darkness presents the works of artists living and working on the island and in the diaspora. Through various media including painting, sculpture, photography and installation, the artists engage with issues of climate justice and disaster, continued colonialism and economic crisis. They also represent and celebrate the strong artistic traditions that have made Puerto Rico one of the most creatively vibrant places in the world. The exhibition features artists who continue to be beacons of hope and resilience in the aftermath of hurricane Maria. As a 'non-incorporated' territory of the United States, the island is struggling to recover from punishing debt and energy crises that expose the legacies of colonialism and the impacts of flawed U.S. policies. Despite many challenges and limited U.S. response to aid its own citizens, many Puerto Ricans are committed to recovery and creating a bright future.



ARTISTS

Adál

Hector Arce-Espasas

Ramón Bonilla

Nathan Budoff

Myritza Castillo

Jo Cosme

crashlovedog

Frances Gallardo

Kai Margarida-Ramírez

Antonio Martorell

Elsa María Meléndez

Patrick McGrath Muñiz

Chemi Rosado-Seijo

Aby Ruiz

Juan Sánchez

Rafael Trelles

Curated by Dr. Josie Lopez



8/11 OPENING EVENTS

Saturday, August 11:

Artists' Talk 3:30pm

Join us for a talk with guest artists before the opening of *Puerto Rico: Defying Darkness*. **Ramón Bonilla** creates paintings and wall installations re-imagining architectural spaces as a way of looking to the future. **Nathan Budoff's** urban scenes juxtaposed with ocean life reflect on issues of dislocation, environmental degradation, the tenuous situation of the island and the ambiguity of being neither part of the U.S. nor independent. **Frances Gallardo's** graphic works and installations analyze hurricanes and other aspects of the natural world. **Patrick McGrath Muñiz** looks to Renaissance painting techniques to explore contemporary Puerto Rican identity, climate change and the economic challenges that many individuals are facing on the Island.

LOCATION: Richard Levy Gallery, 514 Central Ave. SW (next door to 516 ARTS) • Free

Member Preview 5-6pm

Get the first look at the exhibition the members-only champagne preview, with a private tour of the exhibition by the curator and selected artists.

LOCATION: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW

To attend the Member Preview, join the Friends of 516 ARTS at 516arts.org/join

Public Celebration 6-8pm

Celebrate the opening with DJ **Pancho Quiñones** sharing the music of Puerto Rico, including reggae, jazz, salsa and folk music of the mountain regions, as well as *bomba y plena*, which comes from the African Diaspora. Dedication by **City Councilor Isaac Benton** at 6:30pm. Catering generously provided by Slow Roasted Bocadoillos, beer from Boxing Bear Brewing Company.

LOCATION: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW • Free

8/31 READING

**516 WORDS: Eleuterio Santiago-Díaz,
Raquel Z. Rivera & Loida Maritza Pérez**

Friday, August 31, 8pm



516 WORDS, a literary arts series in conjunction with the themes of 516 ARTS' exhibitions, features three accomplished writers from the Caribbean who make their home in Albuquerque. **Eleuterio Santiago-Díaz**, a Puerto Rican poet and literary critic, is an associate professor of Latin American and Caribbean literature at the University of New Mexico. His teaching and research focus on Afro-Hispanic literature and culture in the twentieth century in light of critical theories on race, writing and modernity; modern Latin American poetry; and U.S. Latino Caribbean literature. **Raquel Z. Rivera**, a writer of fiction, non-fiction and songs who was born and raised in Puerto Rico, will share stories and redemption songs tied together by Caribbean liberation mythologies and the uncanny, not-quite-postcolonial parallels between the Caribbean and New Mexico. She is the author of *New York Ricans from the Hip Hop Zone* and holds a Ph.D. in Sociology. **Loida Maritza Pérez** is the author of *Geographies of Home*, a novel. As a native of Quisqueya renamed Hispaniola and divided by colonialism into Haiti and the Dominican Republic; as one with ancestry originating in Africa, Europe and the Americas; also as one whose Latinidad and Americanidad are called into question by virtue of her Blackness, Loida Maritza Pérez is interested in whitewashed histories, in negated identities, and in contested territories.

516 WORDS is organized by Don McIver and is made possible in part by Beyond Poetry, LLC.

LOCATION: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW • Free



9/13 & 9/14 LUNCHES

Pop-up Art Lunches with Rosebar

Thursday & Friday, September 13 & 14, 11:30am-1:30pm



Rosebar, a local farm-to-table catering company, is offering lunches in the museum at a temporary lunch counter, with a menu inspired by Puerto Rico. It includes: pernil (roast pork) with chimichurri mayo, local greens and pickled onions on Rosebar focaccia; roasted cauliflower with chimichurri mayo, local greens and queso blanco on Rosebar focaccia, a seasonal salad and polvorones (wedding cookies). Rosebar was founded in 2016 by Marjory Sweet who owns and operates a small vegetable farm in Albuquerque's South Valley and Corinne Fay who has a background in restaurant cooking and pastry. Rosebar specializes in both sweet and savory food that is creative, approachable, and inspired by the seasonal produce of the Rio Grande Valley.

LOCATION: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW

Pay in person by cash or credit card



9/22 & 9/30 DINNER & WORKSHOP

Puerto Rican Cuisine with Chef Marc Quiñones



516 ARTS and Three Sisters Kitchen, two nonprofit organizations focusing on culture and the arts – visual and culinary, welcome guest Chef Marc Quiñones for two special events: a full course dinner in the museum surrounded by the exhibition, and a hands-on cooking workshop. Born and raised in the South Bronx, Chef Marc Quiñones grew up immersed in his Puerto Rican heritage watching his mother and grandmother cook delicious dishes from as far back as he can remember. He graduated from the Le Cordon Bleu program at the Scottsdale Culinary Institute. Prior to taking over the helm as Executive Chef at Hotel Andaluz he served as Chef of the Historic Inn & Spa at Loretto in Downtown Santa Fe. He has been featured on Food Network twice competing in *Cutthroat Kitchen* and on

Chopped. He was crowned New Mexico's "Chef of the Year" in 2017 by The New Mexico Restaurant Association and most recently was featured in *Forbes Magazine*. Chef MQ has also spent time working in New Orleans, Louisiana, Los Angeles, California, New York City and Kona, Hawaii. A portion of proceeds from these events benefits UNIDOS Disaster Relief & Recovery Program (hispanicfederation.org/unidos).

DINNER: Saturday, September 22, 7pm

Join Chef Quiñones along with exhibition curator Josie Lopez for an exceptional meal with wine pairings and lively conversation about art, activism and Puerto Rican culture.

LOCATION: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW

TICKETS: \$85 / \$75 members • Purchase tickets at 505-242-1445, ann@516arts.org

WORKSHOP: Sunday, September 30, 4-7pm

Sign up for a unique, hands-on cooking workshop in Albuquerque's new home-grown test kitchen, Three Sisters Kitchen. Learn about the ingredients, stories and history of traditional Puerto Rican recipes with a modern flare. Students work in small groups on separate dishes and come together at the end to eat a delicious meal with the Chef. Three Sisters Kitchen is a welcoming space that celebrates and supports local food producers year-round, promotes a healthy community, and offers meaningful opportunities to engage in the local food system.

LOCATION: Three Sisters Kitchen, 102 Gold Ave. SW, threesisterskitchen.org

FEE: \$60 / \$50 members • Register: 505-242-1445, ann@516arts.org



9/28 CONVERSATION

Juan D. González & Chemi Rosado-Seijo

Friday, September 28, 7:30pm



Join accomplished journalist **Juan D. González** and artist **Chemi Rosado-Seijo** for a conversation about topics affecting Puerto Rico including the legacy of colonialism, the debt crisis and the challenges of recovery in the aftermath of hurricane Maria. González is an award-winning broadcast journalist and investigative reporter. A two-time winner of the George Polk Award, he is co-host of Democracy Now!, author of *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America*, and a founder of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists. He spent 29 years as a columnist for the New York Daily News. Before beginning his career in journalism, González spent several years as a Latino community and civil rights activist.

Rosado-Seijo's ongoing public art project with the community of El Cerro, in Naranjito, also reflects on themes of land, community and recovery. A graduate from the Puerto Rico School of Visual Arts, his work engages community and activism. He has received a Creative Capital grant and the Robert Rasuchenberg Artist as Activist Fellowship. In 2017 his work was featured in the Whitney Biennial and at Art Basel. A portion of proceeds from this event benefits UNIDOS Disaster Relief & Recovery Program (hispanicfederation.org/unidos).

LOCATION: KiMo Theatre, 423 Central Ave. NW

TICKETS: \$12 / \$8, available at kimotickets.com



10/4 CONVERSATION

David Ungerleider, S.J. & Antonio Martorell

Thursday, October 4, 5:30pm

Join David Ungerleider, S.J. and Antonio Martorell for an intimate conversation in the gallery. Ungerleider is the author of *Fiestas de Santiago Apóstol en Loiza: LA Cultura Afro-Puertorriqueña ante de los Procesos de Hibridación y Globalización*, a board member of Lannan Foundation, and a Tijuana-based Jesuit priest in the tradition of liberation theology. Martorell is a printmaker, painter, draftsman, installation artist, stage and costume designer, writer, illustrator and teacher. One of the most prolific Puerto Rican artists of the late twentieth and early 21st century, Martorell is a direct heir of the graphic tradition initiated by the masters of the island's "Fifties Generation." He established the Alacrán Studio, one of Puerto Rico's first independent print studios and has taught printmaking in Puerto Rico, Argentina, Colombia and Mexico.

LOCATION: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW • Free



10/14 WORKSHOP

ReMember: Collage with Kai Margarida-Ramírez

Sunday, October 14, 1-5pm



This hands-on artmaking workshop utilizes the medium of collage to help us connect to our families, histories and ancestral homes. Family and home are the building blocks to our identities, how we first develop a sense of self, but we as individuals are the products of many overlapping influences. How can we use collage to create an image reflecting that? Alternatively, how can we use collage to connect to a family one has never met or a homeland one has never visited? How can we collage to connect with what is not familiar to us? Where do we stand within our family histories? Participants are encouraged to bring in photocopies of photos, maps, drawings, sheet music, poetry, buttons and other ephemera.

Kai Margarida-Ramírez is a Brooklyn-based artist who grew up in Albuquerque and was born in Puerto Rico. She works primarily in cut paper, drawing and embroidery. The workshop is open to both teens and adults.

LOCATION: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW

FEE: \$60 / \$50 members • Register: 505-242-1445, ann@516arts.org



10/19 CONCERT

Mariano Morales & Pikante with Nestor Torres

Friday, October 19, 7:30pm

Puerto Rican musical artists Nestor Torres and Mariano Morales accompanied by PIKANTE perform a Latin Jazz special concert featuring some of their original compositions and arrangements. This concert is dedicated to the people of Puerto Rico. The artists are working together in a collaboration between Morales, Torres and Guillermo Figueroa for a concert with the Santa Fe Symphony under the direction of Figueroa at the Lensic on Sunday October 14, 2018. Musical devices such as the song of the Coquí (autochthonous small toad), and the use of Afro Puerto Rican Bomba rhythms, serve as reminders of the sense of pride of the Puerto Rican people on and off the island. Nestor Torres is a prominent flutist who is equally at home in the genres of Latin, jazz and classical music. He has received a Grammy Award and several nominations for his 14 recordings as a soloist. Mariano Morales, who makes his home in New Mexico, is a versatile composer, violinist and pianist with compositions ranging from symphonic works for orchestra to arrangements for the world's most renowned Salsa and Latin Jazz artists.

LOCATION: Outpost Performance Space, 210 Yale Blvd. SE

TICKETS: \$30 / \$25 Outpost & 516 Members, available at 505-268-0044, outpostspace.org



10/21 WORKSHOP

Papier Mâché Carnival Masks with crashlovedog

Sunday, October 21, 1-5pm



Vejigantes, traditional Puerto Rican carnival masks, are a colorful art form from the island which depict a folkloric character whose origins trace back to Medieval Spain. It brings together African *bomba y plena* music with Native Taíno costumes and masks. The mask of the vejigante is known as the careta, made from *papier mâché*. It usually has horns, fangs, beaks and is vibrantly colored and patterned. Crash (Michael J. Beltran), aka crashlovedog, is a native New Mexican with family roots in Puerto Rico. Crash is a multi media artist working primarily with aerosol, tin, and papier mâché. He has worked in public

arts as a muralist and has been an art instructor for over 30 years. The workshop is open to both adults and kids (age 10 and up).

LOCATION: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW

FEE: \$60 / \$50 members • Register: 505-242-1445, ann@516arts.org





516 Central Ave. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102
505-242-1445 • 516arts.org

516 ARTS is an independent, nonprofit, contemporary art museum in the center of Downtown Albuquerque that celebrates thought-provoking art in the here and now. Programs feature a mix of local, national and international artists, and inspire curiosity, risk-taking and creative experimentation. 516 ARTS offers fresh perspectives on relevant issues and cultivates engagement between diverse artists and communities.

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Join the Fiends of 516 ARTS!
516arts.org/join

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