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SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT 2016

The goal of this exhibition is to present meaningful and relevant displays that offer imaginative perspectives on a single theme or subject. Selected by a guest curator, the fourteen participants were chosen based on their creativity, unique use of media and relevance to the theme: Point of Entry.

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#### **CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS**

Center for Community Solutions, a non-profit organization whose mission is to end relationship and sexual violence by being a catalyst for caring communities and social justice, presents selections from their larger project My Sister's Voice. The project consists of black and white photographic portraits of a culturally diverse, international group of women by San Diego-based photographer Pablo Mason. Each female subject is an activist and agent of change, engaged in helping women find their voice, preserve their heritage, and dismantle artificial barriers between genders.

#### KATE CLARK

To create Border Rub, emerging artist Kate Clark collaborated with officials at Customs and Border Protection to make litho crayon rubbings of the bronze Great Seal of the United States of America located at the San Ysidro/Tijuana border crossing. Clark documented her process, and in the resulting video, she is seen in a white coat, resembling an archeologist investigating ancient artifacts. The rubbings, preserved on stretched canvas, invite the public to re-examine these symbol-laden objects that so many pass each day in transit across the border.





TERMINAL 2 EAST | PRE-SECURITY

#### THE AJA PROJECT

**AjA Project**, a nonprofit organization that utilizes participatory photography programs to transform youth and communities, presents Flight + PATHS. Developed through a series of community-based workshops, AjA worked with participants to create self-portraits, sharing a story of immigration or resettlement in San Diego. The resulting mural and their collection of personal objects on view showcase the hope, strength and resiliency of San Diego's immigrant and refugee communities.

#### BHAVNA MEHTA

Bhavna Mehta is a San Diego-based artist born and raised in India. Mehta draws with a knife, creating intricately cut paper works that possess a sculptural quality and tell visual stories. Mehta's pieces shown here use the potent words "remember" and "forget" to speak to the immigrant experience and the boundary lines drawn by language and identity. They reflect the conundrum of wanting to preserve memories from an old home, while simultaneously looking toward the future.



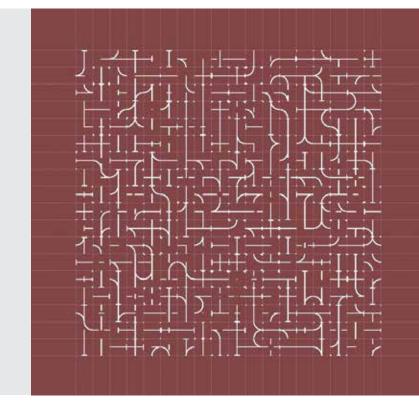


#### **OSCAR ROMO**

In collaboration with the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, **Oscar Romo** presents three sculptural reliefs depicting the path of the Tijuana River as it flows from Mexico into the United States. Each piece is composed of distinct materials in order to emphasize three different aspects of the same terrain: the urban footprint, hydrology, and ecology. Romo seeks to highlight this geographic feature that sustains one of the most productive ecosystems in Southern California, and call attention to the need for the U.S. and Mexico to work jointly to protect and conserve this vital resource.

#### **MATTHEW HIGGINS**

San Diego State University Interior Design Professor Matthew Higgins developed an innovative teaching tool for aspiring designers called the space alphabet. Every line, dash, or dot arranged on the grid stands in for walls, columns, or other physical objects, creating a symbolic arrangement and possible experience of three-dimensional space. Depending on the configuration of these symbols, the viewer may find the space ordered or chaotic, pleasant or unpleasant, meaningful or arbitrary. The viewer's reaction reflects a shared desire to find order in unfamiliar surroundings, notably at places of transition, like an airport.





#### **RON MIRIELLO**

San Diego-based designer **Ron Miriello** uses the globe as a universal starting point to explore creative possibilities. Each globe featured here – selections from his 100 Worlds Project – is unique in form, fabrication technique, and material composition. Miriello partnered with a range of craftspeople – from ship builders to cobblers – to transform familiar, yet unexpected materials into sculpture. Wooden letterforms become topography, and stacked bicycle gears form the contours of the Earth.

#### CAT CHIU PHILLIPS

Cat Chui Phillips explores the juxtaposition of Latino and Filipino cultures in San Diego through her project *Barong/Guayabera*. Titled for the names of traditional formal clothing items from each of the aforementioned cultures, Phillips' work features intricate hand and machine embroidery. The imagery rendered in colorful thread reflects how these cultures have come to have a shared history through migration. Her intent is to illustrate the diversity and rich origins of certain families and communities in San Diego.







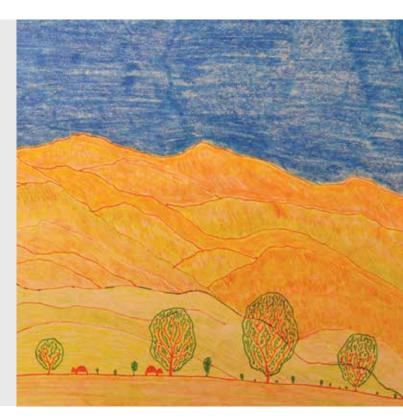
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#### **CARLOS BUENO**

Carlos Bueno is an artist and practicing physician based in Tijuana who has been using an x-ray technique to create non-medical images for more than 10 years. In this series, Bueno has created portraits of individuals through the objects they transport with them. The works call to mind security measures at border crossings and other points of entry, like airports, and also communicate a narrative about the identity of each individual for which the photographs are named.

## TIM CONAWAY, ST. MADELEINE SOPHIE'S CENTER

The imagined landscapes of prolific artist **Tim Conaway** transport viewers to fantastic sites around the globe. Conaway, who has autism, is a student of **St. Madeleine Sophie's Center**, a non-profit organization that provides arts instruction for more than 300 adults with developmental disabilities annually. Inspired by his exploration of atlases and maps, he creates vibrant dreamscapes accompanied by detailed geographic narratives. For Conaway, artmaking serves as an outlet that allows him to move beyond his disability.





#### **GUILLERMO ARIAS**

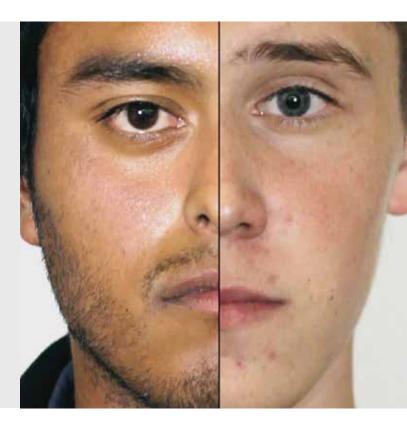
Celebrated photojournalist **Guillermo Arias** documented events around the world for the Associated Press for more than ten years. On view here is a selection of Arias' striking images of the border fence between the United States and Mexico. These works are formally beautiful, but more importantly, they shed new light on the physical barrier that divides the two countries.

#### IVAN DIAZ ROBLEDO

Ivan Diaz Robledo's original video work I, You.

Are we? features a split screen that pairs portraits of diverse individuals from both sides of the U.S./Mexico border. Faces flash across both sides of the screen, interspersed with cultural symbols and sites throughout San Diego and Tijuana.

The imagery gradually changes, eventually accelerating so that any perceived cultural difference or contrast is in essence dissolved.





#### MICHAEL RUIZ

Michael Ruiz highlights the often arduous journey of crossing the border through the process of removal. His Border Series consists of photographs taken while navigating the San Ysidro port of entry by foot or car. Ruiz meticulously erases key figures or elements from these images. By sanding away these layers, he relies on the viewer to contemplate both the optimism and adversity that might be associated with crossing each day.

#### **OLIVIA VIVANCO TORRES**

Olivia Vivanco Torres aims to stir empathy and create solidarity around the migrant experience through her compassionate portraiture. Her Relics series documents individuals from Central America making their way through Mexico in hopes of reaching the United States. Their hands and the objects they carry with them tell a story of their life and journey thus far.



Santos García Velázquez Edad: 29 años Estado civil: Casado Origen: Depto. de Valle, Honduras Destino: Nueva York Ocupación: Trabajador en la construcción. Motivo de migración: Busca una vida mejor para su hijo que nacerá dentro de seis

Contratiempos durante el trayecto: Ninguno



## SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ART PROGRAM

The Art Program at SAN infuses the airport with light, levity, comfort and memorable experiences. The program surprises and delights travelers with art of the highest caliber, and showcases the region's rich cultural community. Bringing texture and depth to the airport environment, the program involves artists in the planning and design of the airport.

Whether you're making your way to your gate or collecting your luggage, take a moment to notice the art around you – it was designed with you in mind.

For more info go to: art.san.org

# POINT OF ENTRY



**POINT OF ENTRY** is a collective exhibition inspired by the geographic, cultural, and social intricacies of borders - both real and perceived. Fourteen distinct installations displayed throughout the airport by fourteen different artists and organizations explore the complexity of cultural identity and international exchange in a bi-national region. Where do our commonalities lie? Where do we find points of intersection, connection, and opportunities for collaboration and dialogue despite barriers that may exist between us? These are the key questions addressed through the diverse projects featured in this year-long exhibition.

