

Luis Mejico

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Bio

Luis Mejico is multidisciplinary artist and independent curator. Xe has performed and exhibited work at the Art Institute of Chicago, Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago, Queens Museum in New York, Mana Contemporary Chicago, Links Hall, Zhou Brothers Art Center, The Oak Park Art League, The Uptown Arts Center, and Jan Brandt Gallery, among others. Xe recently curated NINETEEN: THE REUP, an exhibition of marginalized artists for the Chicago Loop Alliance's ACTIVATE series. Xis first solo show, *I will hurt you*, recently opened in February 2017. Xe is seeking xis BFA at SAIC (2017).

Artist Statement

Utilizing facets that form the basis for social bonds such as intimacy, empathy, and trust, Luis Mejico integrates structures of social relationships directly into the parameters of xis work. Mejico creates projects that carry out gestures and expectations of person-to-person engagements, therefore emulating social bonds when translated into artwork. While *For Me / For You*, a submissions-based performance series, depends on sharing and trust to develop the real-world exchanges and collaborations Mejico has with xis public, works that take the form of events and public programming such as *Lecturas* and *Nineteen* provide platforms for individuals to come together and form new relationships through reflection, celebration, and camaraderie. In doing so, Mejico restructures organic interpersonal connections into artworks that analyze and redefine social bonding through the formalizing of the very aspects that form relationships. By becoming the things that they examine, Mejico's works test the boundaries, expectations, and significance of archetypal human bonds by enacting their innate characteristics.

Curriculum Vitae

Education

2013 - 2017 Bachelor of Fine Arts, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Grants, Scholarships, and Residencies

- 2017 SAIC Travel Grant
- 2016 New York Studio Residency Program
Luminarts Visual Arts Fellowship Finalist
- 2015 Idea Generation Grant
World Less Traveled Travel Grant
ACRE Artists Residency
ACRE Marwen Alumni Scholarship
- 2014 EAGER Grant for Exploratory Research
OxBow Merit Scholarship
- 2013 Walter + Shirley Massey Full Tuition Merit Scholarship, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Solo Exhibitions

- 2017 *I will hurt you*, Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, San Antonio, TX
- 2016 *Rules of Conduct*, with Katya Grokhovsky, Joan Flasch Artists Book Collection, Chicago, IL
Following: Valentine's Day, with Tyler Lumm, High Concept Labs, Mana Contemporary, Chicago, IL
- 2015 *Following: Project Launch + Live Performance*, with Tyler Lumm, The Learning Machine, Chicago, IL
Hymn #2, Interment, Flaxman Library, Chicago, IL

Group Exhibitions

- 2017 (Upcoming) *Miata, Me Oughta, Mee-ah-tah*, Defibrillator, Chicago, IL
(Upcoming) *Materialkink*, Leather Archives + Museum, Chicago, IL
(Upcoming) *Open House*, Silent Funny, Chicago, IL
Liveart.us, Queens Museum, New York, NY
Way Out / Away Out, 80WSE, New York, NY
Arte Latino Now, Queens University, Charlotte, NC
With and In Difference, @performancearthouston on Instagram
- 2016 *SOHO20 2016 Fall Benefit*, SOHO20, New York, NY
Talking Points, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL
Art in Odd Places: Race, New York, NY
New Work, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL
Millennial Movie Night, Comfort Station, Chicago, IL
Her Environment: Dream Machines, TCC Gallery, Chicago, IL
Juice, Annoyance Theater, Chicago, IL
Yes to 722!, Standard Toy Kraft, New York, NY
School of the Art Institute of Chicago 150th Anniversary Gala, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

- Luminarts Visual Fellowship Finalists Exhibition*, Union League Club, Chicago, IL
Mobile Gestures, TriTriangle, Chicago, IL
An Evening with ACRE, in>TIME16 Performance Festival, Links Hall, Chicago, IL
2015 *First Transmissions*, Student Union Galleries at SAIC, Chicago, IL
Black N Tan for Chicago Artists Month, The Silver Room, Chicago, IL
Sense of Place, Jan Brandt Gallery, Bloomington, IL
FROOT SALAD, Annoyance Theater, Chicago, IL
Pride @ Soho, Soho House, Chicago, IL
BODYHACKS, Dark Lodge, Chicago, IL
Body In Way Of, Soho House, Chicago, IL
the good, the true, the beautiful, Uptown Arts Center, Chicago, IL
Climate Crisis, Water Street Studios, Batavia, IL
Biblioderive, Flaxman Library, Chicago, IL
Live Boys and Live Girls, Anatomy / Gift / Association, Chicago, IL
2014 *21Minus*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
In Time, Oak Park Art League, Oak Park, IL
3rd Fridays #1, Zhou Brothers Arts Center, Chicago, IL
New Blood VIII, Links Hall, Chicago, IL
Process, Water Street Studios, Chicago, IL
Luis Mejico / Cerqua Rivera, Things are Better in Space, Chicago, IL
Growing Out With Vicious Patience, Glass Haus, Chicago, IL
Finally Another Show, Anatomy / Gift / Association, Chicago, IL
Shadowplay, Student Union Galleries SAIC, Chicago, IL
Inter-Action Performance Festival, Artbash 2014, Chicago, IL
The WALK Video Screenings, The Walk, Chicago, IL

Curatorial Projects

- 2016 *Lecturas 2*, Collaboration with Chicago Public Library for Hispanic Heritage Month
Nineteen: The Re-Up, for ACTIVATE Chicago, Chicago, IL
The Glow Up, Silent Funny, Chicago, IL
2015 *Lecturas*, Collaboration with Chicago Public Library for Hispanic Heritage Month
BODYHACKS, Dark Lodge, Chicago, IL

Publications

- 2016 Video Video!, interview
Racing Culture, interview
To: From:, *Following* featured
The Atmosqueer, *Following* featured
Akiba.us, work featured
2015 Off-Kilter Magazine, interview and work featured
E+D Magazine, interview
2014 Quail Bell Magazine, interview and work featured
365 Artists / 365 Days, interview and work featured

Panels / Workshops

- 2016 Knitting / Embroidery Workshop, Chicago Cultural Center
- 2015 Panelist, *Ways of Knowing*, SAIC's Diversity Fall Symposium, *Reframing Visibility*,
Panelist, *Re-Envisioning The Archives: Panel Discussion*, for SAIC's 150th
anniversary exhibition, *Re-Envisioning The Archives*
Hands for Clapping Performance Workshop, School of the Art Institute of
Chicago

Teaching / Mentoring Experience, SAIC

- 2016 Mentor, College Arts Access Program
- 2015 Mentor, College Arts Access Program
Classroom Assistant, Middle School Program
- 2014 Classroom Assistant, Middle School Program
Teaching Assistant, Early College Program

Internship History

- 2016 Franklin Furnace, coder and archiving assistant
New York Foundation for the Arts, Assistant Archivist
- 2013 Gallery / Install Assistant + Archivist, A+D Gallery
- 2012 Costume Designer / Assistant, Redmoon