

Carlos Aguirre

Aguirre's sculptural technique and ironic political understatement will most likely be present in the two new works he will create for the exhibition. They will include wood, metal and photographic images. Aguirre was born in Acapulco, Guerrero, in 1948, and studied industrial design in Mexico City and London. He has exhibited in Mexico, Canada, the United States, Central and South America, and in Europe.

Marco Arce

Arce uses sequential images and a diverse source of visual imagery in his paintings. Arce was born in Mexico City in 1968 and studied painting with Gilberto Aceves Navarro. He has exhibited in Mexico and the United States since 1987.

Carlos Arias

Rojo y Negro is an example of Arias' many different uses of embroidery. In this work, Arias began with a traditional design created by Puebla Indians. Then, using the traditional red and black threads, he has created a second portrait image in the white spaces between the original design. Arias was born in Santiago, Chile, in 1964, and studied painting in Santiago and in Mexico City. He has exhibited works in Mexico and the United States.

Rojo y Negro (1994)

embroidery on cotton

100cm x 120cm

original embroidery created by Indians of San Pablito, Páhautlan, Puebla, Mexico: "intervention" embroidery created by Carlos Arias.

Mónica Castillo

Cuadros para Marta was created for the 1996 bi-annual Premio invitational competition held by the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey (MARCO). Castillo made the work for her housekeeper, Marta, who requested the artist make a landscape painting for her. Several early attempts were not satisfactory to Marta who directed Castillo to make changes that resulted in the painting in the lower right. Marta's comments and criticisms are recorded in the work's central panels. Castillo was born in Mexico City in 1961 and has studied painting in Germany and Mexico. She has exhibited works in North, Central and South America.

Cuadros para Marta 1995
oil on canvas
poliptych, 122cm x 150cm

Silvia Gruner

Natura/Cultura is part of Silvia Gruner's on-going investigation of the unique qualities of common objects. In this installation, each item is identified as being "nature" (organic, created in nature) or "culture" (manipulated, created by human beings), leading the viewer to a recognition of the unlimited inventiveness of both man and nature. Gruner was born in Mexico City in 1959 and has studied in Boston and Jerusalem. Her sculpture, installations, video works and photography have been exhibited in Europe, and in South, Central and North America.

Natura/Cultura (detail) 1996
157 C-type photographic prints, individually framed
20cm x 25cm each, installation dimensions variable

Yolanda Gutiérrez

Quiñones' paintings are built of layers of opaque and translucent surfaces interspersed with found objects and carved wood talismans. *La Curación* was created for the Premio competition at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey (MARCO) and nominated as a finalist for the \$250,000 award. Quiñones was born in Mexico City in 1967 and is self-taught. He is a member of the Mexico City vanguard artists' collective, la Quiñonera, and has exhibited in Mexico, Central and South America since 1990.

La Curación 1995

acrylic on canvas, wood, metal, nylon, earth, plastic and thread
290cm x 208cm x 50cm

Betsabé Romero

For *México Ahora*, Romero will create a series of dried-rose-encrusted fire extinguishers in glass and wooden cases to be hung in locations appropriate for fire extinguishers. Romero was born in Mexico in 1963 and studied painting in Mexico City. She has exhibited paintings and installations in Europe, the United States, Mexico and South America.

Melanie Smith

Orange Lush is one of a series of assemblage works created by Smith from the garishly colored objects found in the street stalls and stores of Mexico City. The fluorescent orange color has become the hallmark of a new series of oil-on-canvas paintings that will also be included in the exhibition. Smith was born in England in 1965 and studied art in London before emigrating to Mexico in 1989. Her work has been shown in Mexico, Europe and the United States.

Orange Lush I 1994

mixed media

201cm x 151cm x 27cm

Gerardo Suter

Suter will create a new photo-environment work for the exhibition. Suter was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1957 and has lived in Mexico since 1970. He has exhibited photographs and installations throughout Europe and the Americas and represents Mexico in the 1996 Sao Paulo Biennale.

Diego Toledo

Toledo turned from painting to sculpture abruptly in 1990, yet explores dynamic surfaces in his quasi-scientific objects. *Epidermis* is a large, self-standing structure that reacts to the movement of viewers with changing lights. Toledo was born in Mexico City in 1964 and is a member of the artist collective, La Quiñonera. He has exhibited works in Mexico and the United States since 1988.

Epidermis 1994-95
electrical system, wood, latex, metal frame
200cm x 212cm x 30cm

Boris Viskin

Viskin will be represented by a series of three large new white-on-white paintings that push the boundaries of color and texture. Viskin was born in Mexico City in 1960 and studied painting. He has been a member of the collective gallery, Zona, and has exhibited in Mexico, Europe and the United States since 1988.