MINNESOTA
MUSEUM of
AMERICAN ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MESTIZAJE: INTERMIX-REMIX

ON VIEW MARCH 19–JUNE 12, 2022

March 11, 2022—St. Paul, MN—The M is excited to announce ***Mestizaje: Intermix-Remix***, an exhibition co-presented with Grupo Soap del Corazón, which features eight Latinx artists (identifying as Chicano, Chilean, Colombian, Mixteco, Mexican, and Mexican-American) as they explore what it means to claim a mixed-race identity consisting of both Indigenous and European descent.

The concept of *mestizo* (having Spanish-Indigenous ancestry) originated in the sixteenth century as part of a racial designation system created by Spanish and Portuguese colonizers in what is now considered Latin America. Today, the violent and lasting impacts of colonization can be difficult to fully comprehend.

Without seeking definitive conclusions or definitions, artists **Marcela Rodríguez Aguilar, María José Castillo, Luis Fitch, Bobby Marines, Dougie Padilla, Maria Cristina Tavera, Xavier Tavera**, and **Vlocke Negro** explore questions of ancestry and identity.

This exhibition, on view in the M's public-facing windows and skyway entrance, is the first iteration of a long-term collaboration between the M and the art collective Grupo Soap del Corazón (art that cleanses the heart). Grupo Soap has been centering artistic expression of Latinidad in the Midwest for more than twenty years. The collective advances the work of local, national, and international Latino/a/x artists with the intention of inspiring political, economic, and racial justice through the doorways of art. Curated by Dougie Padilla and Xavier Tavera, founders of the artist collective Grupo Soap del Corazón.

Artwork pictured above:

Xavier Tavera, *El Duelo/The Duel*, 2021
Marcela Rodriguez Aguilar, *Pacha Map,* 2022
Dougie Padilla, *Mestizo*, 2021
Vlocke Negro, *Nunca nos Conquistaron*, 2022

MESTIZAJE: RELATED PROGRAMS

EXHIBITION DETAILS
March 19–June 12, 2022
Robert and 4th streets and Skyway EcoLab Entrance
350 Robert Street North
St. Paul, MN
mmaa.org

EXHIBITION KICK-OFF I MESTIZAJE: INTERMIX-REMIX
Thursday, March 31, 6:00–7:00 p.m., CTD
Zoom I mmaa.org

Celebrate the opening of the exhibition by joining featured artists Dougie Padilla, Xavier Tavera, and Maria Cristina Tavera for a casual conversation exploring the history of the art collective Grupo Soap del Corazón (art that cleanses the heart), founded by Dougie Padilla and Xavier Tavera in 2000.

CONVERSATION I MESTIZAJE: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE
Thursday, May 12, 6:00–7:30 p.m., CDT
Zoom I mmaa.org

Join featured artists and scholars for an in-depth conversation about what it means to be mestizo today. Panelists will share reflections on their ancestors, the significance of racial mixing through migration and colonization, the dynamics of self-identification, and the evolving meaning of mestizaje.

NORTHERN SPARK: POSTERS AND PATCHES POP-UP
Saturday, June 11, 9:00 p.m.–2:00 a.m.
350 Robert Street North entrance, St. Paul, MN

Stop by the M's entrance in downtown St. Paul during the Twin Cities late-night arts festival Northern Spark and pick up a free poster designed by Grupo Soap artists. Screen print your own patch and join a sidewalk guided tour of *Mestizaje* with local curator and educator Billy Franklin, offered in English and Spanish. Pre-registration is required for guided tours. Visit mmaa.org for more information.

Minnesota Museum of American Art • mmaa.org

Minnesota Museum of American Art (the M), based in St. Paul, is one of the oldest visual art organizations in Minnesota, with roots stretching back to the 19th century. Recognizing that art is a tool for facilitating understanding across difference, the M is dedicated to amplifying the power of art and artists who represent diverse perspectives, identities, and lived experiences.

First introduced as an innovative way to present engaging exhibitions while remaining closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the M will continue to exhibit work in its window galleries as well as in the skyway, virtually, and at partner facilities, in anticipation of commencing construction work on the final phase of the M's facility.

Minnesota Museum of American Art • 350 Robert Street North • St. Paul, MN 5510 • mmaa.org

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