

Get Down... TOWN

TWO HOT HAPPENINGS THIS FALL PUT DTLA FRONT AND CENTER ON THE ART WORLD STAGE.

BY GABÉ HIRSCHOWITZ

Coinciding with the Getty Foundation-funded megaseries *Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA*, two major art events take place in Downtown this season: the debut of **proyectosLA**, a cultural platform that provides a unique opportunity for the most innovative modern and contemporary Latin American art galleries to exhibit in Los Angeles, as well as the highly anticipated reopening of the renamed **Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (ICA LA)**, formerly Bergamot Station's Santa Monica Museum of Art, at its new home in a classic industrial building in the heart of the Arts District.

Capitalizing on a critical moment for Latin American art, proyectosLA runs through Oct. 28 at werkärt studios, a 20,000-square-foot Downtown LA warehouse with interiors designed by Mexican starchitect Ezequiel Farca. Curated by Luiza Teixeira de Freitas and Claudia Segura, the collaborative show will feature work from Central, South and North American galleries presented in a "no walls" format. "ProyectosLA was born a few years ago with the idea of bringing Latin American galleries and artists to Los Angeles in a collaborative and collective way," say founders Patricia Fajer, Teresa Iturralde and Tracy O'Brien. For LA's dynamic community of art aficionados and collectors, proyectosLA will provide insight into the Latin American

ICA LA's first show features the work of Mexican-born art legend Martín Ramírez.



ProyectosLA is bringing work by Mexican artists, including Miguel Covarrubias, Germán Cueto and Graciela Iturbide, to DTLA.

"THE PREMISE OF 'NO WALLS, NO BORDERS' SEEMS MORE RELEVANT THAN EVER."
- ALEXANDRA GARCÍA

From left to right:
Tracy O'Brien, Teresa
Iturralde and Patricia
Fajer, founders of
proyectosLA.

ProyectosLA artist Nicanor Aráoz's
"Glótica" (2015), originally shown at the
gallery Barro in Buenos Aires, Argentina.



region within the historical
context of its relationship
to Los Angeles. Alexandra
García, of Guadalajara's
Páramo Gallery, explains
that "the premise of 'no walls,
no borders' seemed more
important and relevant than
ever." Nahuel Ortiz Vidal, of
the Argentine gallery Barro,

adds that proyectosLA "speaks in an international language. It is vital because it is being built as a platform of cultural exchange." *Tickets cost \$20; each ticket is valid during the entire run of the exhibition, proyectosla.com*

Also contributing to Downtown LA's exploding art scene, ICA LA just opened in a 12,700-square-foot space on East Seventh Street renovated by the LA-based architecture firm WHY. Led by Executive Director Elsa Longhauser, the museum's boundary-pushing exhibitions of works by international artists, dynamic public programs and inclusive community partnerships are intended to reflect the diversity of Los Angeles and the world. The premiere exhibition, titled *Martín Ramírez: His Life in Pictures, Another Interpretation*, is on view in the main gallery and includes some 50 drawings and collages by the legendary self-taught master, who died in 1963. Debuting alongside the Ramírez show will be additional exhibits organized by ICA LA curator Jamillah James. *Project Room: Abigail DeVille* is the Bronx-based artist's first Los Angeles solo show and touches upon displacement, migration and cultural invisibility, says James. "Now I'm going to tell you everything," a temporary installation by artist Sarah Cain, is the inaugural project for ICA LA's courtyard wall on Seventh Street. Spanning a massive 800 square feet, Cain's work takes its title from a poem written for the artist by poet Bernadette Mayer. Who says bigger isn't better? *Admission is free of charge, theicala.org* ■

