

I STARTED THE CURATION OF Meaning is always here by trying to imagine a persona the Mariorie

to imagine a persona the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art might present to Nevadans that live far away and cannot reach us. We at the Museum think we have a good sense of who we are, but how do others perceive us? We shift. Our exhibitions change. Therefore, this exhibition should show that change with artists from different backgrounds and media. The works should reference the real world and represent a transformation through the artists' decisions, so that we can see where they're coming from.

Artists face the problem of selfinterpretation every time they create work. Mikayla Whitmore, standing in the desert outside Las Vegas, dons a reflective blanket to illustrate an idea that has circulated through their practice for years: the tension between wanting to be known and the desire to maintain your privacy. How do you control what people see of you? Chase R. McCurdy – another Las Vegan – suggests his ideas through a meticulous symbolic vocabulary that differentiates him from the other Black artists in our collection. Like Whitmore, he concentrates on indirectness.

Should we draw attention to details that change us? Marshall Scheuttle looked at a motel in Reno and saw how the architectural grid was altered by the casual existences of people. Tomoko Daido, a New Yorker, visited the Hoover Dam and saw something weird in the monumental concrete, a vision around the shape of a ladder. Should we draw attention to history? Krystal Ramirez, whose family has benefitted from the work of Las Vegas' Culinary Union, chose a photograph from UNLV's Special Collections archive documenting the Culinary protests that took place on the Las Vegas Strip in the 1990s. Candice Lin remakes a different kind of history with her bodyobject, a conflation of a medical diagram, and a talisman, an imaginary relic. Mary Cady Johnson's prints; record a day in the early 1970s when UNLV hosted a dance event on campus. She was an artist, an arts educator, and a foundational member of local arts organizations. Like Daido, she records a public vision that was open to everyone, but available *in this way* only to her.

The works by Stephan Antonakos and Lucio Pozzi are here because it seemed important to include something from the Vogel 50 x 50. The Vogel collection is based at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., but the Vogels decided to share it with the nation by sending fifty works to every state. We're the caretakers of Nevada's portion. (You can see the rest in our online archive.) Antonakos' decision to use a stamp in his collage directs me onwards to Kim Rugg's altered envelopes. Rugg, like Alexander Calder, realized that the U.S. flag (sliced vertically in her *Magic Eye*) is a design that can't be made purely indirect or even historical: a meaning is always here, now.

Meaning is always here...I think about the artworks that couldn't be included in this traveling show for reasons of size or fragility. That artwork awaits you at the Barrick Museum of Art. Visit and see.

–Deanna Sole

SPECIAL THANKS

The Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art is pleased to loan this artwork from our permanent collection to the Nevada Arts Council. Our goal is to help broaden the Museum's message that everyone deserves access to art that challenges our understanding of the present and inspires us to create a future that holds space for us all.

NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL

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The Nevada Arts Council is a division of the Nevada Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs.

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ARTISTS

Lucio Pozzi Chase R. McCurdy Alexander Calder Tomoko Daido Kim Rugg Mary Cady Johnson Krystal Ramirez Candice Lin Mikayla Whitmore Stephen Antonakos Marshall Scheuttle

SPECIAL THANKS

Alisha Kerlin • Chloe Bernardo • Deanne Sole • Paige Bockman Emmanuel Munoz • LeiAnn Huddleston





NEVADA Tourism & Cultural Affairs

NEVADA TOURING INITIATIVE

Meaning is always here



2020

by Krystal Ramirez Paperboard, adhesive,

printed reproduction

of a photograph

16 x 20 in

WE GET WHAT WE TAKE WE KEEP WHAT WE HAVE THE STRENGTH TO HOLD

Protest Puzzle, Untitled #2

Reflexology

adornment

by Candice Lin

16 x 8.5 x 2.125 in

Plastic, ink, chain, feather

2004

by Mary Cady Johnson 26.75 x 20.5 x 0.75 in







Opres 1972 by Mary Cady Johnson Serigraph 26.25 x 20.25 x 0.75 in

The Magic Eye 2007 by Kim Rugg Reconfigured postage stamp and envelope 8 x 12.5 x 1 in



2007 by Kim Rugg Reconfigured postage stamp and envelope 8 x 12.5 x 1 in



Sunset



Untitled Travel Collage, Athens, January 6, 1989 M 1989 by Stephen Antonakos Mixed media collage 10.125 x 9.625 x 2 in



Don't Say I Didn't WARN You... 2018 by Chase R. McCurdy Digital C-print . 17 x 21 in

> Flying Colors 1976 by Alexander Calder Lithograph on paper 28.5 x 39.125 x 1.25 in



Wonder Lodge 2015 by Marshall Scheuttle Digital C-print 17 x 21 in

Seven Years of Bad Luck 2019 by Mikayla Whitmore Archival metallic inkjet print 29.875 x 19.75 in



on paper 18.875 x 14 x 1.75 in

Decoration 1 1993 by Lucio Pozzi Watercolor and ink