

Luciano Pimienta: *Wαys of Knowing* at The Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego opens December 10th, 2021



// Ways of Knowing will be on view at ICA / North from December 4th, 2021, to February 13th, 2022.

// In this exhibition, Pimienta explores the ephemerality of clay and ceramics.

// Pimienta questions our understanding of land, property, and boundaries.

San Diego, CA, November 29, 2021— The Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego (ICA San Diego) is excited to announce its winter exhibition *Ways of Knowing* featuring the work of Regional Artist Luciano Pimienta.

For Pimienta, land is a commodity. He challenges notions of property as part of a public commons by investigating the symbols our society has created to make or claim and solidify our boundaries. Pimienta asks us to reconsider why we put such value on privatized property and asks us to question where and why our own borders stop and how it impacts the way we experience the land we inhabit.

Pimienta's exhibition at ICA San Diego engages his multidisciplinary sculptural practice to recreate signifiers we encounter in our daily lives. These commonplace symbols have been reinforced and ingrained in our lives to determine who is an insider and who is an outsider. Through works that manipulate the state of their medium, he creates ephemeral experiences that plays with the everchanging nature of inclusion and exclusion.

We witness this in his clay sculptures. Each piece exists in a different state of being. Some are dissolving unfired sculptures, other works feature raw clay silk screened onto the walls, paintings are constructed through the liquid clay slip, and other pieces appear in a final fired state. These works are complemented by living nopal cacti that are carved by the artist. Their inclusion juxtaposes the idea of the majestic cactus as a symbol of untamed land with their frequent use of decorative landscape fencing for private properties.

"Reflecting on these systemic assumptions about ownership and alienation is important in understanding inequity in our society." Andrew Utt, Executive Director





Ways of Knowing places viewers in a position to confront how we were taught to understand our societal signifiers that divide our land. Each work's inherent ephemerality obscures the markers and the meanings behind them. As we view each work, we question the truths we were taught and reconceive notions of belonging.

- Opening Reception: Friday, December 10th, 6:00 pm-9:00 pm
- Exhibition will be on view from Saturday, December 4th, 2021, through Sunday, February 13th. 2022.
- Located at ICA San Diego / North, formerly known as Lux Art Institute.
- Exhibition Opening Hours: Thursday to Sunday, 12 5 pm.
- Admission is always FREE through our Pay-As-You-Wish initiative.

Related events

Considering Boundaries

Saturday, December 11, 2021 10:00 am-1:00 pm

This workshop is led by Luciano Pimienta for college students interested in ceramics or the art of Luciano Pimienta.

Through coil building ceramics participants will work together to help the artist construct a sculptural chain-link fence while discussing ideas of boundaries, access to land, and the proximity to the border

This is a FREE workshop. Participants need to be currently enrolled in college or community college as well as 18 years or older. Space is limited to 15 participants and spots will be secured on a first come first served.



"Hello" Name / Badge / Labels

Talleres/Workshop Saturday, January 22, 2022 10:00 am-12:00 pm

This intergenerational workshop is for families in San Diego

Pimienta will guide you and your family through a dynamic discussion about his exhibition <u>Ways of Knowing</u>. Together, you will create your own artwork by learning the process of transferring handmade labels onto clay as a form of self-expression.





About the Artist

Luciano Pimienta's work explores dualities and the space found in the in-between. He is interested in the ephemeral, the natural world, and the seemingly permanent aspects of history. Using personal narratives as a starting point for sculptures and time-based installations, he investigates themes of memory, desire and healing. Pimienta combines material and iconography linked to his experiences to explore the complexity found in what it means to be "American."

Pimienta was born in Los Angeles, CA, in 1983 and currently lives and works in San Diego. He has an MFA from San Diego State University and a BFA from Alfred University, NY. He has exhibited at the Kellogg Art Gallery in Pomona, CA; Park Exhibition Center, Idyllwild, CA; The Front Arte Cultura, San Ysidro, CA; ArtSpace, Richmond, VA; SDSU Downtown Gallery, San Diego, CA, and the Clay Center of New Orleans, LA amongst others.

About the Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego

ICA San Diego opened in September 2021 as a platform for experimental art and learning with a mission to question everything. A living laboratory of art, ideas, and programs unfold inside its galleries totaling more than 8,000 square feet in Balboa Park, nestled inside 1,200 acres of lush public gardens, and in Encinitas, in 7,000 square feet of exhibition and education spaces on six acres of coastal landscape overlooking the San Elijo Lagoon. Cutting edge but accessible, daring yet thoughtful, challenging, and inviting, ICA San Diego welcomes the community to gather, learn, and experience the new. A rotating, continually changing program of exhibitions, installations, commissions, classes, and workshops reflects an organization on the forefront of art and public life. Founded in 2021, yet evolved from over 100 years of combined experience, ICA San Diego is always free and open to the public. ICA San Diego is located at 1439 El Prado in Balboa Park and 1550 S. El Camino Real in Encinitas.

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