



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Museo de las Americas Presents Malinalli on the Rocks: A Latinx and Chicanx perspective of *La Malinche*

Exhibit will feature new works from 11 Latinx and Chicanx artists in Colorado

**Denver-February 9, 2022-** Denver's Latin American Art Museum, Museo de las Americas (Museo), located in the heart of the Art District on Santa Fe, presents a new exhibition: *Malinalli on the Rocks*. Curated by Maruca G. Salazar, former Executive Director at Museo de las Americas, this exhibition will explore, through paintings, installations and mixed media works, one of the most enigmatic historical figures of the Americas: La Malinche. As a community museum, Museo de las Americas, provides a platform for local talent to present, from a place of belonging, a contemporary and post-modern interpretation of this icon with new ideas and perspectives. Quintin Gonzalez, Frank Zamora, Sylvia Montero, Carlos Fresquez, Arlett Lucero, Karen Martinez, KARMA, Mario Zoots, Daniel Salazar, Delilah Montoya and Anthony Garcia Jr. are the artists featured in *Malinalli on the Rocks*. There will be a remembrance piece for the late artist Alicia Cardenas since she was going to be part of this exhibition.

La Malinche (Marina or Malinalli) was born in Mexico in the early 1500s; the chronicles mention that she was an Indigenous woman who was later given as a slave to the Spaniards by a Mayan lord. La Malinche later became an interpreter for the Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés during his conquest of the Aztec Empire. La Malinche and Hernán Cortés had a child named Martin Cortés, one of the first known Mestizos.



The story of La Malinche is one immerse in myth and tinted by the interests of the men that wrote history. Perhaps a story we were conditioned to believe in. "If we remove the patriarchal lens and Eurocentric vantage, what we confront is a powerful presence, a woman that survived, overcame adversity, fulfilling the destiny foretold to her parents the night that she was born. She is Malinalli Tenepal, the wild weed and the one that talks too much with enthusiasm and fluidity" said Maruca G. Salazar, Curator of *Malinalli on the Rocks*.

This exhibit brings artists together to create a mosaic of interpretations to deconstruct the told story of La Malinche and to construct new narratives of what it means to be bilingual, biracial, bicultural and the struggles that the colonized had to face and that Mestizos still feel nowadays. Generational trauma, and the value of one's individual search for identity is addressed in this exhibition. As visitors reflect on La Malinche, who she was, her struggles as a woman, and as an Indigenous person during the Spanish colonization, they start to form their own interpretations and their own conversations about the female experience, the experience of colonization and the path towards liberation.



“Museo de las Americas is excited to have Maruca back at Museo curating a show that reflects on her challenging curatorial perspective. This exhibit highlights Maruca’s unique artistic vision that is the result of a contemporary woman that also understands from a historical and archeological point of view the roots in which Mestizaje is founded” says Claudia Moran, Executive Director at Museo de las Americas.

The works in *Malinalli on the Rocks* will take us to a profound journey that will question our own stereotypes and rules. A journey of liberation of what is meant to control us. This exhibit challenges viewers to reflect on the ideas of dual identity and liberation. It is an invitation to reimagine a figure categorized for some as a traitor and for others as a figure that showed extraordinary resilience and strength, and to recognize the complexity of her dual and powerful identify.

Museo de las Americas invites visitors to explore, question and reflect on how history is written and how we approach it nowadays. This exhibit brings a diverse group of artists that at some point of their lives learned the story of La Malinche from different angles. The artists featured in this exhibition were thrilled to rediscover their Latinx and Chicanx roots and to share with visitors the interpretations they created of La Malinche and themselves as a part of a universal journey to liberation.

“In today’s world, new interpretations may be the pathway for new aesthetics and visionary art of the Americas” said Maruca G. Salazar, Curator.

*Malinalli on the Rocks* will be on view from Thursday, March 17, 2022 to Saturday, July 23, 2022 at Museo.

## **About Museo de las Americas**

Museo de las Americas is the premier Latin American Art Museum of the Rocky Mountain region. Located in the heart of the Art District on Santa Fe, Museo is dedicated to educate our community through collecting, preserving, interpreting, and exhibiting the diverse arts and culture of the Americas, from ancient to contemporary, through innovative exhibitions and programming.

## **Media Contact**

Cristina Del Hoyo  
Communications & Media Manager  
Museo de las Americas  
[communications@museo.org](mailto:communications@museo.org)

## **Image Credits**

### **Image 1**

**Title:** *La Malinche*, 2021  
**Artist:** Quintin Gonzalez

### **Image 2**

**Title:** *Ixchel*, 2021  
**Artist:** Quintin Gonzalez

## **Planning Your Visit and COVID-19 Safety Protocols**

Information on planning a visit to Museo de las Americas can be found [here](#).  
Up-to-date information regarding our COVID-19 safety protocols can be found [here](#).

## **Location**

Museo de las Americas, 861 Santa Fe Drive, Denver, CO 80204

## **Hours**

Tuesday - Friday: 12 PM – 6 PM  
Saturday: 12PM – 5PM  
Sunday - Monday: Closed

## **General Admission**

\$8.00 Adults  
\$5.00 Students/Seniors/Artists/Teachers/Military/  
FREE – Children 13 years of age and under  
FREE – Members

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