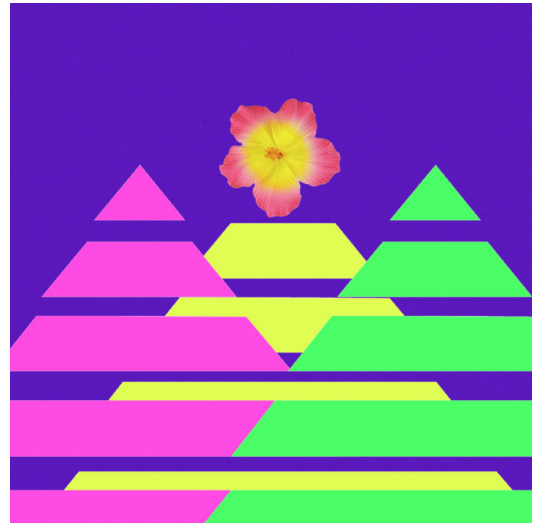


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Friday, April 12, 2019

Edgar Fabián Frías: Perpetual Flowering

April 13, 2019 – July 20, 2019



(MONTEREY PARK, CA) – The Vincent Price Art Museum at East Los Angeles College is pleased to present *Edgar Fabián Frías: Perpetual Flowering*, the artist's first solo museum exhibition. In this immersive exhibition, Edgar Fabián Frías transforms the gallery into a multi-disciplinary offering/sanctuary/portal, mixing video testimonials, digital imagery, flower essences, and interactive elements to create an environment that encourages contemplation as well as altered states of awareness. *Perpetual Flowering* foregrounds the importance of self-care, creating community, and ways in which we may hold space for each other.

Collectively, Fabián Frías's works create an environment conducive to empathy and understanding, and one that reflects an intersection of various sectors the artist engages with including art practice, community organizing, therapy, ceremony, healing practices, and spirituality rooted in the sacred knowledge of their indigenous heritage. The installation encourages the dissolution of boundaries between these areas, weaving together personal and collective narratives.

A descendant of the Wixarika, Fabián Frías organizes the installation utilizing colors associated with the sacred directions, and also re-interprets ancient ceremonial songs into contemporary music videos. *Perpetual Flowering* also includes a series of video testimonials that bear witness to the experiences of selected participants living in the Los Angeles area and in Tulsa, Oklahoma, offering opportunities for the viewer to connect to stories that may resonate across communities.

Highly stylized digital imagery, incorporating sacred and natural elements, is presented in diverse forms evoking a home environment, such as printed shower curtains and pillows. The artist also includes sacred objects, as well as a unique flower essence charged with natural elements that are native to East Los Angeles created in collaboration with artist and herbalist Saewon Oh. Additionally, Fabián Frías collaborated with Oh on a zine that is also on view, and the two will lead a flower essence making ceremony, open to the public, to take place during the run of the exhibition.

"Having previously worked with Edgar in a group performance program, we are excited to deepen our engagement with their work at the museum," said VPAM Director Pilar Tompkins Rivas. "Edgar's generous practice provides important space for communities across lines of race, class, gender expression, and sexual orientation. We are honored to serve as the venue for Edgar's first solo museum exhibition."

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Edgar Fabián Frías, MA MFT is a nonbinary, queer, indigenous (Wixarika) and Latinx interdisciplinary artist, curator, educator, and psychotherapist. Their work traverses academic, social, historical, and relational planes, building bridges and weaving webs. Their practice is amorphous and expansive, rooted in multivalent forms of connection and in the magic that emerges from it. Born in East Los Angeles, Fabián Frías earned dual BA degrees in Psychology and Studio art from the University of California, Riverside and completed an MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. Consequently, Fabián Frías' work is often collaborative and engages with the intrapersonal and interpersonal aspects of consciousness and the continuing effects of colonial and patriarchal structures on the health and resiliency of marginalized communities. Their work has been shown at Angel's Gate Cultural Center, Vincent Price Art Museum, Human Resources, Machine Project, SOMArts, ESMoA, Recess Gallery, Pieter Performance Space, and PAM Residencies. Fabián Frías is currently participating in the Tulsa Artist Fellowship.

RELATED PROGRAMS

OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday, April 13, 2019
5:00 – 7:00 pm

FLOWER ESSENCE-MAKING CEREMONY

Saturday, July 20, 2019
12:00 – 2:00 pm

ABOUT THE VINCENT PRICE ART MUSEUM

The mission of the Vincent Price Art Museum at East Los Angeles College is to serve as a unique educational resource for the diverse audiences of the college and the community through the exhibition, interpretation, collection, and preservation of works in all media of the visual arts. VPAM provides an environment to encounter a range of aesthetic expressions that illuminate the depth and diversity of artwork produced by people of the world, both contemporary and past. By presenting thoughtful, innovative and culturally diverse exhibitions and by organizing cross-disciplinary programs on issues of historical, social, and cultural relevance, VPAM seeks to promote knowledge, inspire creative thinking, and deepen an understanding of and appreciation for the visual arts.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Admission to all exhibitions and programs at the Vincent Price Art Museum is free. Hours: Tuesday–Saturday 12:00pm–4:00pm, with extended hours on Thursday until 7:00pm. Closed Sundays and Mondays and national holidays. Vincent Price Art Museum, East Los Angeles College, 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park, CA 91754–6099. Onsite parking \$2 in the structure located at Collegian Avenue and Floral Drive.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WEBSITE

vincentpriceartmuseum.org

IMAGE CREDITS

LEFT: Edgar Fabián Frías, *Perpetual Flowering: West*, Archival pigment print, 2019. Courtesy of the artist.

RIGHT: Edgar Fabián Frías, *Curtain (Purple)*, Polyester printed curtain, 2019. Courtesy of the artist.

PUBLICITY IMAGES

Below is a selection of approved images for publication in conjunction with promotion of *Edgar Fabián Frías: Perpetual Flowering*. Both artwork and gallery installation images are available for promotional usage. Image reproductions must include full caption information. Images may not be cropped or altered in any way or superimposed with any printing. High-resolution files of all approved images are available through the Vincent Price Art Museum's Google Drive account. To request access, please email info@vincentpriceartmuseum.org.



TOP ROW, ARTWORK IMAGE CREDITS

LEFT: Edgar Fabián Frías, *What is Something You Wish You Would've Heard Growing Up? (English)*, 2019, Archival Pigment Print. Courtesy of the artist.

CENTER: Edgar Fabián Frías, *What is Something You Wish You Would've Heard Growing Up?*, 2019, Still from video. Courtesy of the artist.

RIGHT: Edgar Fabián Frías, *What is Something You Wish You Would've Heard Growing Up? (Spanish)*, 2019, Archival Pigment Print. Courtesy of the artist.

BOTTOM ROW, GALLERY INSTALL IMAGE CREDITS: Installation view, "Edgar Fabián Frías: Perpetual Flowering" on view at the Vincent Price Art Museum, East Los Angeles College, April 13, 2019–July 20, 2019. Photo by Monica Orozco.