Schedule of Exhibitions through June 2015

PLEASE NOTE: Information provided below is subject to change. To confirm scheduling and dates, call the Press Office at 212.660.7119

PLAYING WITH FIRE: Political Interventions, Dissident Acts, and Mischievous Actions
Tracing the founding of El Museo del Barrio by Raphael Montañez Ortíz at the end of the 60s, an era of social unrest and radical activism in the United States as well as throughout the Americas, the works in this exhibition target colonialism, imperialism, urban neglect, and cultural hegemony with a vast array of weapons, including irreverence and humor. The artists confront the status quo with a wide range of disarming conceptual strategies and aesthetic detonators. The fire that surfaces in some of the artworks points to an equally dangerous and alluring element that consumes and transforms, one that must be handled with care.

Playing with Fire: Political Interventions, Dissident Acts, and Mischievous Actions purposely welcomes impolite, undomesticated, rebellious, hilarious, and even sacrilegious discourses and gestures that stick out their tongues at oppressive systems and push for the re-politicization of society and the art space.

The exhibition, as part of El Museo's Carmen Ana Unanue gallery is guest curated by multi-disciplinary artist Nicolás Dumit Estévez.

MARISOL: Sculptures and Works on Paper
October 9, 2014 - January 10, 2015
Press Preview: October 8, 2014, 10:00am – 12:00pm
This retrospective, which will feature 30 significant works—both sculptures and works on paper, seeks to re-establish Marisol as a major figure in postwar American art. Ranging from 1955 to 1998, the exhibition includes examples of the various media used by Marisol (bronze casting, wood carving, assemblage, plaster casts, and terracotta), as well as the many themes and subjects she considered (portraiture: her family, and famous and anonymous people;
women’s roles; Native Americans and other disenfranchised people; the poor; and art history).

The exhibition will also consider, for the first time, Marisol’s works on paper, which often address the same themes as her sculptures, but with a strong undercurrent of violence and eroticism. The works in the exhibition have been chosen carefully to elucidate Marisol’s artistic evolution, both in terms of subject matter and materials. The show is accompanied by a catalogue, co-published between the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art and Yale University Press.

This exhibition has been organized by the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, Tennessee, curated by Marina Pacini. Premier Sponsorship for this exhibition is provided by The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Foundation. Additional sponsorship is provided by The Venezuelan American Endowment of the Arts, Tony Bechara, and Nina Fuentes. National Sponsorship for this exhibit is provided by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the Henry Luce Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and FedEx Corporation.

UNDER THE MEXICAN SKY: Gabriel Figueroa—Art and Film
Among the most important cinematographers of the so-called Golden Age of Mexican Cinema, Mexican artist Gabriel Figueroa (1907–1997) helped forge an evocative and enduring image of Mexico from the early 1930s through the early 1980s. Having worked with leading directors from Mexico, the United States and Europe, traversing a wide range of genres, Figueroa maintained his distinctive and vivid visual style.

In the 1930s, Figueroa was part of a vibrant community of artists in many media, including Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco, Edward Weston and Manuel Alvarez Bravo, who sought to convey the country’s transformation following the trauma of the Mexican Revolution. Later, he adapted his approach to the very different sensibilities of directors Luis Buñuel and John Huston, among others. Figueroa spoke of creating una imagen mexicana, a Mexican image. His films are an essential part of the network of appropriations, exchanges and reinterpretations that formed Mexican visual identity and visual culture in the mid-twentieth century and beyond.

The exhibition features film clips, paintings by Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco, Manuel Rodriguez Lozano and José Chavez Morado, photographs, prints, posters and documents, many of which are drawn from Figueroa’s archive, the Televisa Foundation collection, the collections of the Museo de la Estampa and the Museo Nacional in Mexico. In addition, the exhibition includes work by other artists and filmmakers from the period such as Luis Buñuel, Sergei Eisenstein, Edward Weston, and Tina Modotti that draw from the vast
inventory of distinctly Mexican imagery associated with Figueroa’s cinematography or were heavily influenced by his vision.

The exhibition has been organized by the Televisa Foundation. Sponsorship provided by Tony Bechara and Nina Fuentes.

ABOUT EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO:
El Museo del Barrio, New York’s leading Latino cultural institution, welcomes visitors of all backgrounds to discover the artistic landscape of Latino, Caribbean, and Latin American cultures. Their richness is represented in El Museo’s wide-ranging collections and critically acclaimed exhibitions, complemented by film, literary, visual and performing arts series, cultural celebrations, and educational programs. For more information on El Museo del Barrio, please visit www.elmuseo.org.

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