

EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

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EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO PRESENTS

TALLER BORICUA: A POLITICAL PRINT SHOP IN NEW YORK

The first monograph exhibition in 30 years of the
Nuyorican artists collective workshop

March 25 - June 28, 2020

Press Preview: March 24, 2020 | 5pm

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NEW YORK, NY, March 2, 2020 - In celebration of Taller Boricua's 50th anniversary, El Museo del Barrio is pleased to present *Taller Boricua: A Political Print Shop in New York*, the first monograph exhibition in three decades about the East Harlem-based Nuyorican collective workshop and alternative space, from March 25 to June 28, 2020. Best known for its cultural empowerment and political activism, the organization commonly known as 'The Puerto Rican Workshop,' served as a focal point for the affirmation of identity as it relates to artistic production in the diaspora, as well as its connections with non-Western, African and Taíno sources. In the 1970s, it produced and circulated hundreds of prints by artists centered on issues of Puerto Rican independence, workers' rights, and anti-imperialism both locally and in the Caribbean and Latin America, issues that remain relevant today.

Curated by Rodrigo Moura, Chief Curator of El Museo del Barrio, the exhibition will be comprised of more than 200 works and ephemera, including serigraphs, lithographs, linocuts, paintings, assemblages, collages, and drawings by founding and early members, including Marcos Dimas, Carlos Osorio (1927-1984), Jorge Soto Sánchez (1947-1987), Nitza Tufiño, and Rafael Tufiño (1922-2008), among several others. Works in the show draws from El Museo's Permanent Collection, Taller's extensive archives, as well as other collections.

"Similar to El Museo del Barrio, Taller Boricua was born out of the civil rights movement and the necessity to create cultural references and spaces for underrepresented Latino communities in the United States. As a result, it revealed a truly extraordinary generation of artists moving between different artistic languages and infusing indigenous and African visual sources in their work. This exhibition aims to further contextualize our history as a Museum, and honor the legacy of organizations created by the Nuyorican community during this critical time in history" said Rodrigo Moura, Chief Curator, El Museo del Barrio.

A recognized space for political activism, Taller Boricua is one of several Puerto Rican organizations created in New York City around the same time, as the Young Lords and El Museo del Barrio, and has mentored several generations of artists, art historians, and curators. The space served as a focal point for the affirmation of identity as it relates to artistic production in the diaspora, as well as its connections with non-Western art history

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narratives. Focused on its first decade of existence, the exhibition will also examine the close relationship between Taller Boricua and El Museo del Barrio, examining their common members, ethos, and the artists' role in the creation of a visual identity for the Museum's programs and exhibitions in its early years.

This exhibition inaugurates a series of shows that will further contextualize the history of El Museo del Barrio; its neighborhood, pivotal figures, and practice.

Taller Boricua: A Political Print Shop in New York is made possible thanks to the generous support of Tony Bechara, Encarnita Valdes Quinlan and Robert C Quinlan, the de la Cruz Martínez Family, and Richard Torres.

ABOUT EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

El Museo del Barrio, founded by a coalition of Puerto Rican educators, artists, and activists, is the nation's leading Latino and Latin American cultural institution. The Museum welcomes visitors of all backgrounds to discover the artistic landscape of these communities through its extensive Permanent Collection, varied exhibitions and publications, bilingual public programs, educational activities, festivals, and special events.

The Museum is located at 1230 Fifth Avenue at 104th Street in New York City, and open Wednesday to Saturday from 11:00am - 6:00pm, and Sunday from 12:00 to 5:00pm. Pay-what-you-wish.

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