

EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ESTAMOS BIEN - LA TRIENAL 20/21 PRESENTS

SE QUE FUE ASÍ PORQUE ESTUVE ALLÍ **XIME IZQUIERDO UGAZ**

Online photographic archive by artist Xime Izquierdo Ugaz
debuts Wednesday, September 9, 2020

www.sequefueasi.com

Link goes live on September 9

VIRTUAL EVENT

Wednesday, September 9, 6-7pm | FREE, To RSVP visit, www.elmuseo.org

NEW YORK, NY, September 1, 2020– As part of El Museo del Barrio’s year-long initiative *ESTAMOS BIEN: LA TRIENAL 20/21*, the museum announces the launch of a new online artists’ project, *Se Que Fue Así Porque Estuve Allí* a commissioned photographic archive by artist Xime Izquierdo Ugaz on Wednesday, September 9th at 6pm. The digital archive expands on the artist’s ongoing series of photo portraits of their queer chosen family, and features over forty images accompanied by text and audio testimonies. Created in collaboration between the photographer and the sitters, *Se Que Fue Así Porque Estuve Allí* (I Know It Was So, I Was There) forms a poetic and intimate perspective of a community, who is able to tell their own stories in their own voices.

Reflecting on their practice, Xime explained, “Photography has a history and a present of being used as a tool for surveillance of Black and Brown people, and we have a duty to counter-surveil. In a moment in which extraction and death is so present in our communities, this series has been my way to document the everydayness of our lives and our resilience, and to showcase the beauty that I see in my most intimate moments with all of my fierce, gorgeous, Black & Brown, queer and trans kin.”

Dating from 2017 to the present, the portraits featured in *Se Que Fue Así Porque Estuve Allí* were taken on rooftops, sandy beaches, living rooms, and other sites, both public and private, between Lima, El Carmen, New York, Boston, Washington DC, and Miami. These photographs, reflecting particular places and moments in the life of the artist and their sitters, will also be on view in El Museo del Barrio’s galleries when *ESTAMOS BIEN: LA TRIENAL 20/21* opens in March 2021.

PUBLIC PROGRAM | Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 6-7pm

Join La Trienal curators in discussion with Xime Izquierdo Ugaz about their online photographic archive *Se Que Fue Así Porque Estuve Allí*, honoring the stories and voices of the artist’s chosen queer family. Collaborators Itzamna Huerta along with featured portrait sitters Midrene Lamy, Vianca Lugo, and Prince Malcon will also join

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the conversation to share their experience and contributions to the digital platform. A part of *ESTAMOS BIEN - LA TRIENAL 20/21*. Free, to RSVP visit, www.elmuseo.org

ABOUT XIME IZQUIERDO UGAZ

Xime Izquierdo Ugaz is a multimedia artist, curator, educator, and language justice worker born in Lima, Perú. Their work primarily touches on the imprint of inter-generational trauma within their own family in relationship to place and migration. They are the visual arts co-curator at [Nat. Brut](#) and co-founder of the QTPOC virtual festival based in Perú, [Cabritas Resistiendo en Cuarentena](#). They are also a co-organizer of [BODYHACK](#), a party and mutual aid fund for trans and nonbinary people. Having grown up in a family of seamsters, Izquierdo Ugaz also has their own hand embroidery business and collection; [Beso de Moza](#) as well as recent collaboration with Omololu Babatunde, [ROGUE THEIF](#), an upcycled denim brand honoring thieves. In addition, Izquierdo Ugaz is the author of the self-published *Standing in the Bathroom in the Dark Thinking About Green* and *El Mismo Pozo/The Same Well*. Their work has appeared in FEELINGS and their first chapbook is titled *Estoy Tristeza* (No, Dear Magazine & Small Anchor Press, 2018).

ABOUT ESTAMOS BIEN - LA TRIENAL 20/21

ESTAMOS BIEN: LA TRIENAL 20/21 is El Museo del Barrio's first national large-scale survey of Latinx contemporary art featuring more than 40 artists from across the United States and Puerto Rico. Curated by El Museo del Barrio's Chief Curator Rodrigo Moura and Curator Susanna V. Temkin, with New York-based artist Elia Alba as Guest Curator, the yearlong initiative launches with online projects (July 23 - October 15, 2020) and culminates with an onsite exhibition (March 13 - August 22, 2021). The full list of artists will be announced in October 2020.

Online artist projects and schedules, include Lizania Cruz (*Obituary of the American Dream*, July 23, 2020) | Poncilí Creación (*Somxs Podemx*, August 2020) | Collective Magpie (*Who Designs Your Race?*, September 2020) | Xime Izquierdo Ugaz (*Se Que Fue Así Porque Estuve Allí*, September 2020) | Michael Menchaca (*The Wall*, October 2020). Related public programs featuring curators, artists, invited scholars and other guests will take place throughout the year. For more information visit, www.elmuseo.org

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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

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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. The Museum will be open for limited hours until further notice: Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00pm - 5:00pm. Pay-what-you-wish. To connect with El Museo via Social Media, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. For more information, please visit www.elmuseo.org.

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