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## UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center Media Release

### For Immediate Release

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### **CSRC AMONG LOS ANGELES'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS ART INSTITUTIONS TO PRESENT ART AT 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL LA ART SHOW**

**CSRC director Chon Noriega to curate works by Raphael Montañez Ortiz, Ramiro Gomez, and Louis Hock as part of international art fair's special installation and performance program focused on Latino and Latin American art and experience**

Los Angeles, CA—The UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center (CSRC), an international leader in organizing Chicano-Latino art exhibitions, kicks off 2017 with a series of artworks on display at the LA Art Show, January 11-15 at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The CSRC will be part of a programming initiative focused on Latino and Latin American art that involves the city's major art institutions, including LACMA, MOCA, The Broad, and the Getty, among others.

CSRC director Chon Noriega will curate installations and performances by artists represented in the CSRC archives. The artists include Raphael Montañez Ortiz, whose work since the 1950s is in the MOMA, Whitney, Tate, and Smithsonian collections, among others, and whose 1966 performance at the Destruction in Art Symposium in London served as the inspiration for primal scream therapy.

"These artists will be responding to our current political moment," says Noriega. "Ortiz's performances will engage ritualistic and participatory practices focused on the everyday objects that often hold our anxieties."

Other works, by Ramiro Gomez and Louis Hock, make visible the de-humanizing nature of the ongoing immigration debate. "It's now a debate about how many people to deport and how tall a wall to build," explains Noriega. "Gomez and Hock present works that are each eight feet tall and, combined, run nearly 170 feet in length. Visitors will feel the visual and physical impact of these debates on their own movement through the exhibition space." Gomez's work is a mural that "removes" Latino domestic laborers, and Hock's is a wall that halves the exhibition space, confronting and disorienting visitors by interrupting the natural flow of foot traffic.

"This work is inherently disposable—used furniture and cardboard—adding another dimension to the issues the artists engage," says Noriega. "They are not making an object to contemplate from a safe distance, but initiating a process that brings the issue close to home."

The programming series *Fragments from Home*, curated by Noriega and presented by LACMA, will feature:

- ***Couch Destruction: Angel Release (Pennies from Heaven)*, a performance by octogenarian "deconstructivist" artist Raphael Montañez Ortiz**

<http://www.laartshow.com/raphael-montanez-ortiz/>

*To be performed at the Opening Night Premiere Party, Wed., Jan. 11, 9 p.m.*

- **Piano Destruction Ritual: Cowboy and Indian Part Two, a performance by Raphael Montañez Ortiz**

<http://www.laartshow.com/raphael-montanez-ortiz/>

*To be performed Sat., Jan. 14, 2 p.m.*

- **Shred Your Worries, an installation by Raphael Montañez Ortiz**

<http://www.laartshow.com/raphael-montanez-ortiz/>

*Participatory art ongoing each day at LA Art Show.*

- **Cut-Outs, an installation by Ramiro Gomez**

<http://www.laartshow.com/ramiro-gomez/>

*Viewable each day at LA Art Show.*

The CSRC will also present at LA Art Show:

- **a wall, an installation by Louis Hock**

<http://www.laartshow.com/louis-hock/>

*Viewable each day at LA Art Show.*

**The artists will be present at the opening.**

*Fragments from Home* references the upcoming exhibition *Home—So Different, So Appealing* organized by the CSRC for LACMA and curated by Noriega with Pilar Tompkins Rivas (Vincent Price Art Museum) and Mari Carmen Ramírez (Museum of Fine Arts, Houston). The exhibition opens June 2017. *Home* is part of *Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA*, an initiative of the Getty with arts institutions across Southern California. The presenting sponsor is Bank of America. Louis Hock, along with Liz Sisco and David Avalos, is the creator of *Welcome to America's Finest Tourist Plantation*, a public art project launched by the three artists in 1988 to communicate a dire message: undocumented workers are being exploited by San Diego's tourist industry. The only surviving bus-mounted poster from this project is now on permanent public display at the CSRC.

**FOR ARTWORK IMAGES:** <http://chicano.ucla.edu/about/csrc-la-art-show-2017>

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#### **About the LA Art Show**

Designed from its inception in 1995 to address the cultural interests of Angelenos, LA Art Show has played a large role in engaging the community with the depth of international work from the Pacific Rim and Europe. The 2017 Show establishes a new and more vital global forum for the arts in the hub of the city's vibrant art scene. For more information visit <http://www.laartshow.com/>

#### **About the CSRC**

Founded in 1969, the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center (CSRC) is an established leader in scholarly research on the Chicano-Latino population in the United States. Project areas include the arts, education, media, economic security, and public health. The CSRC Press publishes books, oral histories, policy briefs, and the premier journal in its field. The CSRC Library holds the largest archival and digital collections in the United States on the Chicano-Latino experience. Nearly 500,000 people have seen CSRC public programs and exhibitions since 2006. CSRC Director Chon Noriega is a professor in the UCLA Department of Film, Television, and Digital Media.

For more information, visit <http://www.chicano.ucla.edu/>

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