



RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CON (TEXT)

Exhibition opening Thursday, September 17, 2020
74 East 79th St., 2D, New York, NY 10075
Wednesday-Saturday 11AM-4 PM and by appointment

Ruiz-Healy Art is delighted to present *CON(TEXT)* at our New York City gallery featuring works by Richard Armendariz, Cecilia Biagini, Nate Cassie, Andrés Ferrandis, Leon Ferrari, Cecilia Paredes, Katie Pell and Ethel Shipton. The exhibition opens on Thursday, September 17 and will be on view through January 9, 2021.

The themes found in the works of *CON(TEXT)* range from an appreciation of the visual, graphic forms of text itself and the action of writing in Cecilia Biagini's work to the fleeting moments of clarity formed by it in Ethel Shipton's. Text has the power to birth both transient and lasting images in the minds of those who view it; its presence in visual works of art pulls viewers in and asks them to consider the relationship between the image and the bits of language simultaneously. The eight artists in this exhibition, with their diverse approaches to artmaking and conceptual themes, are unified by their use of this element.

About the Artists

Ricky Armendariz's conceptual aesthetic is heavily influenced by growing up in the U.S./Mexico border. Armendariz is known for his hand-carved paintings, text-based imagery and his large color-saturated woodblock prints that weave anthropomorphic narratives with tales of turmoil. Spanglish, as well as contemporary and folk song lyrics, appear frequently in his compositions.

Cecilia Biagini's works are inspired by traditions of Latin American geometric abstraction. Utilizing a bold sense of color, line, depth and abstraction, the varied works find commonalities in their composition and playfulness. Evoking ideas of physics, the geometric shapes in her work are arranged in a manner suggesting movement and animation.

Nate Cassie's work includes drawing, painting, sculpture, video and digital media. His thematic practice centers on what he terms, "spaces in between," the gaps that distance surface from volume, skin, and structure, formal and intuitive systems. Cassie's text works employ the written word as an implied value that reveals figurative forms and shapes.

Andrés Ferrandis uses both intricate collage and sultry text in his signature style. His pieces are void of English and Spanish interplay, as he was born in Valencia, Spain and academically trained at the University of Seville. Ferrandis writes of his use of various media and text in his work.

Leon Ferrari's conceptual works touch on themes surrounding the atrocities of the West, religious institutions, and the Argentinian government. His two-dimensional works are characterized by text motifs and a signature "scratchy" mark-making style, which he uses to explore the intersection between art and the written word.



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Presenting text in visual art allowed him to broach political topics in the public sphere in a time when the Argentinian media was controlled by an authoritarian government.

Cecilia Paredes' digital engravings are informed by her research of old maps, astronomy and astrological bodies. She creates new images of celestial maps by subverting their position in the sky, rearranging them and placing Zodiac signs in the compositions. In addition to this, she inserts phrases of her favorite poets, such as Jorge Luis Borges.

Katie Pell worked with media of all sorts, however, her true love was drawing. She used combinations of media and tools like text to expand the boundaries of what her drawings could relay to the viewer, often using text to reveal complicated thoughts and emotions.

Ethel Shipton's practice is informed by a strong conceptual base that encompasses text in a playful manner. Through painting, installation, photography, and text, Shipton spotlights instants of clarity that flit by in the comings and goings of daily life. Her recent works are visual displays processing her recent artist residency at Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany through Blue Star Contemporary.

We look forward to welcoming you to Ruiz-Healy Art New York City starting September 17th. Advance appointments are recommended but not required. To schedule your visit, please [click here](#) or call 212-510-7873. The health and security of our staff and visitors is our top priority, our staff has implemented enhanced safety measures in accordance with city guidelines and reopening protocol. With these concerns in mind, kindly note that we're taking the following precautions at our newly reopened gallerie:

- There will be a limit on visitors in the space at a time, to align with the city's current social distancing protocol.
- Visitors are required to wear masks for the duration of their visit.
- Masks and hand sanitizer will be provided for visitors at the front desk.
- Gallery staff will be wearing masks.

To be the first to know about our exhibitions and other programming, sign up to our newsletter here and follow us [@ruizhealyart](#). This exhibition will be made available online on our [Artsy](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [gallery website](#).

About Ruiz-Healy Art

Established in San Antonio, Texas and in operation since 2006, Ruiz-Healy Art specializes in contemporary works of art with an emphasis on Latinx and Latin American artists, as well as working with prominent Texas-based artists. With galleries in San Antonio, Texas and New York City, Ruiz-Healy Art's continuous investments in these underrepresented areas have remained a longstanding signature of the gallery program. To request high-resolution images and more information about the exhibitions, please contact the gallery at info@ruizhealyart.com, 212-510-7873 or 210-804-2219.