Ruiz-Healy Art is pleased to present *Paper Trails,* concurrent group exhibitions of works by Carlos Almaraz, Nate Cassie, Nicolas Leiva, Constance Lowe, Ethel Shipton, Rufino Tamayo, and Vincent Valdez, among others, at our San Antonio and New York City galleries. The exhibition will be on view at our San Antonio gallery from March 11 to May 2, 2026. *Paper Trails* explores distinct processes that use paper as a primary substrate, including painting, printmaking, experimental drawing, and mixed-media works. These procedures offer intimacy and insight into an artist's diverse techniques, revealing their processes, aesthetic experimentation, and operations.

The immediacy of drawing allows artists to explore the power of the artist's hand, merging their process with the familiarity of paper. The fundamental artistic technique motivates artists to experiment with medium and style, allowing for different manners of expression. Nicolas Leiva's vessels, boats, abstract forms, and flying carriages transform into playful charcoal illustrations. His imaginative world unfolds in infinite realms like a Möbius strip. Leiva's works are fantastical landscapes that utilize gestural, organic, and geometric forms to present a host of archetypes in his emblems of flight, safety, and delight.

While Leiva's abstracted, experimental drawings stretch the limits of charcoal and paper, Nate Cassie's works on paper are more tranquil. Some of Cassie's works are words alone, illustrated with simply silver leaf on paper, while others are solitary drawings, envisioning mountainscapes without human intervention. Constance Lowe similarly explores depictions of landscapes, but her experimental interventions into the medium transform the genre into a unique documentation of her individual perspective. Lowe's mixed-media works combine influences from her Midwestern farming heritage, landscape photography, and the legacy of geometric abstract painting, with the physical presence of materials such as felt and leather. All of these fall against the backdrop of paper as the foundation, with works mixing archival digital print with felt and leather to depict a bright blue sky dotted with soft clouds, interjected by bright geometric paper shapes of blues and purples.

Vibrant slices of life are the main focus of Carlos Almaraz's multicolor screenprints, which camouflage a cast of animalistic and anthropomorphic characters amid dark, shadowy figures in the foreground. With his technique and artistic aesthetic, Almaraz creates a textured oil pastel effect on the screen, which seems carnivalesque. Almaraz's work is heavily informed by his

upbringing, born in Mexico City, and eventually settling in East Los Angeles. Similarly, Rufino Tamayo experiments with shape and composition in his fractured, schematic, and abstract portraiture. Adroitly synthesizing influences from Mexican and international sources, including Cubism and Surrealism, Tamayo conceived life and art as a universal heartbeat: “Art, like culture, is international. It’s the result of many parts to which we add our own tone.”

The age-old medium of paper, often seen as secondary to painting and sculpture, allows artists a greater degree of artistic freedom that is not always awarded by other media. *Paper Trails* invites viewers to consider the universal themes of imagination and identity, and the powerful influence of lived experience on artists’ creative approaches.

About Ruiz-Healy Art

Founded in San Antonio, Texas, in 2006, Ruiz-Healy Art represents an international roster of artists, with a particular emphasis on Latino/a and Latin American creators, as well as prominent Texas-based artists. Biculturalism and discussions of identity are important aspects for several artists we work with. In the spring of 2019, we opened a gallery space on the Upper East Side of New York City, working in tandem with our gallery in San Antonio to serve as a platform for disseminating the artist’s work. The continuous investment in these underrepresented areas has long been a hallmark of the gallery program. The gallery is recognized for its success in placing works by our artists in prestigious museum collections ranging from the Museum of Modern Art, New York, Whitney Museum of American Art, the Smithsonian Institution, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Antonio Museum of Art, McNay Art Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and many others.