



RUIZ-HEALY ART

Contemporary Art from Latin America & Texas

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Gallery: 210-804-2219

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Infinite Horizons: Abelardo López & Leigh Anne Lester

The exhibition will be on display June 11 through August 1, 2015
RUIZ-HEALY ART 201-A East Olmos Drive, San Antonio Texas 78212
Artists Talk Saturday, July 11th at 1:00

Ruiz-Healy Art is pleased to present *Infinite Horizons* featuring recent works by Abelardo López & Leigh Anne Lester. *Infinite Horizons* highlights both pillars of the gallery program (Latin American and Texas connected artists) and showcases what RHA does best; juxtaposing the artistic hemispheres of its niche, while furthermore taking a micro/macro view of the natural environment by contrasting two artists whose artistic outputs are both immersed in nature.

Representing our roots in Texas, Lester was born in Shreveport, Louisiana. In 1989 she moved to San Antonio and in 1993 she received her BFA in Painting from the University of Texas in San Antonio. López is from Oaxaca, the Mexican state known for being an artistic Mecca. He was born in the town of San Bartolo Coyotepec in 1957 and studied at *the School of Fine Arts*, part of the *Universidad Autonoma Benito Juarez de Oaxaca*, as well as the *Rufino Tamayo Workshop*. *Infinite Horizons* is the first time these two artists have exhibited side-by-side.

López infuses landscapes, a more traditional genre of painting, with a sentimentality of homeland and a unique painterly style. He provides the onlooker with a daydream for tranquility by using texture and impasto technique as facilitator. Short, rigorous strokes sculpt each scene. The strong horizontals and plays of light on the steadfast horizon provide a meditation of peace, beauty and stability to the viewer. López states that he is inspired by the topography of his homeland and the color planes of Gunther Gerszo. Furthermore, painting landscapes provides him with an “intimate joy;” that he feels is a “sort of communication with Mother Earth.”

Lester’s work examines nature through a scientific lens rather than the psychological one of López. The layers she employs are of delicate drafting film rather than his heavy pallet of oil paint. She explores flora at the cellular level, investigating genetic modifications and often times creating her own species of botanical beings. Her artworks provide the viewer with a glimpse into the plant’s



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genesis and inner morphological struggles, an intimate point of view normally only experienced by their creator.

Lester's work has been exhibited in Texas and throughout the United States. Her solo exhibitions include grayduck, Austin; McKinney Avenue Contemporary, Dallas; Artpace and The Southwest School of Art, San Antonio. She is the recipient of the 2011 Hunting Prize award and has been selected for the Künstlerhaus Bethanien Artist in Residency for 2016 in Berlin, Germany, in partnership with the Blue Star Contemporary Art Museum and the University of Texas at San Antonio. Her work is found in many private and public collections including the University Health Center and the University of Texas in San Antonio.

López has been featured in galleries and institutions extensively throughout Mexico and internationally, including the Centro de Cultura Casa Lamm, Mexico City, Mexico; Galería de Arte de Oaxaca, Oaxaca, Mexico; Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes, Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico; Centro Cultural Galileo, Madrid, Spain; and Centro Cultural Borges, Buenos Aires, Argentina. In the United States, López has had artworks exhibited in the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach, California and Indigo Arts Gallery Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Artworks by López are also found in important private collections such as Centro Médico ABC Campus Santa Fe, Mexico City; Museo Rayo Roldanillo, Valle del Cauca, Colombia; Museum of Modern Art of Latin America, Washington, D.C. and Academia Mexicana de la Lengua, Mexico City.

An artist talk will be held at the gallery July 11 at 1 pm. *Infinite Horizons: Abelardo López & Leigh Anne Lester* will be on view through August 1, 2015.

Founded in 2004 and located in the historic Olmos Park District of San Antonio, Ruiz-Healy Art specializes in contemporary and modern art with an emphasis on Latin American artists and artists living in or with a connection to Texas. To request high-resolution images and more information about the exhibition, please contact the gallery at 210-804-2219.