ARTFORUM



BOSTON January 1, 2019

"GRACIELA ITURBIDE'S MEXICO"

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON 465 Huntington Avenue

In these times, when walls literally and symbolically epitomize a perverse, exclusionary outlook on the foreign, the work of Mexican photographer Graciela Iturbide strikes with the relentless perspective of an insider. Frustrating the clichés of folklore and the picturesque, Iturbide's sumptuous black-and-white images reach for the untold stories and overlooked narratives of her home country—its intricate religious and indigenous cultures, conflicting histories, and ever-transitional present. Covering five decades, her first major exhibition on the East Coast unites more than 125 photographs, primarily drawn from Iturbide's own collection, and features thirty-seven new acquisitions, including pieces from "Juchitán," 1979–88, a series on Mexico's Zapotec women; six bewitching images of birds; and documentation of Frida Kahlo's Casa Azul. Accompanied by a beautifully illustrated catalogue, this timely tribute to one of Mexico's greatest living artists reveals that the other is always us.

Curated by Kristen Gresh

— <u>Sabrina Mandanici</u>