



Recent El Museo del Barrio Acquisitions Include Artworks by Two Texas Artists

by [Nicholas Frank](#) | August 29, 2025



El Museo del Barrio in New York City, has announced recent acquisitions by 39 artists, two among them from Texas.

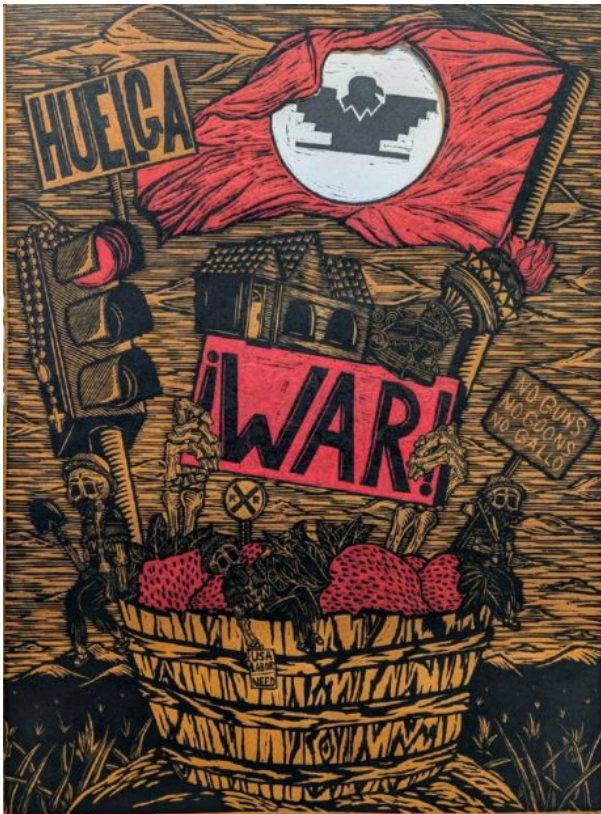
With the mission to present and preserve the art and culture of Puerto Ricans and all Latin Americans in the United States, the museum acquired a woodcut print by Dallas artist [Benjamin Muñoz](#), and a painting by San Antonio artist [Ethel Shipton](#). Both artworks will be on view in the *Jangueando: Recent Acquisitions, 2021–2025* exhibition that opened Thursday, August 28 and will be on view through summer 2026.



Benjamin Muñoz

As described on the museum’s website, the exhibition’s Spanglish title means “hanging out with your friends,” playing on multiple definitions, including the social activity of installing artworks in a gallery. “At a time when many of the communities represented by El Museo del Barrio are under attack, ... interpretations of the word imply both solidarity and a political call to action through holding space and kinship.”

Mr. Muñoz’s chine-colle print, *Contract Labor*, 2024, brings together images of protest and heritage, from the United Farm Workers Aztec eagle flag to signs reading “HUELGA” (strike), “¡WAR!,” and “No GUNS NO GOONS NO GALLO” planted in a strawberry harvesting basket.



Benjamin Muñoz, “Contract Labor,” 2024

Regarding the work, Mr. Muñoz told Glasstire, “The work carries a very relevant message. El Museo has a long history of storytelling and of platforming artists who reflect the struggles and triumphs of our people. I imagine many of the other works in this show will also resonate with those same narratives and shared DNA.”

Mr. Muñoz said that though *Contract Labor* was intended as a historical piece, made to document the struggles of the past, “Looking at it today, you could very well still have a lot of the conversations that build the composition of this piece. We’re dealing with the same border struggles, new names and organizations but the same bottom line.”



Ethel Shipton, "Cambio/Change," 2020

Ms. Shipton said the shifting context of her work, *Cambio/Change*, 2020, is similar. Originally made just before the COVID-19 pandemic in response to the political climate in the U.S., she said, "but then the whole world changed."

A rendering of the two similarly-defined words stylized in red on white to resemble the iconic Coca-Cola logo, Ms. Shipton said a viewer might at first read it as advertising, as "something familiar," before they realize its meaning.

"It was a plea for things to change for the better when I made it," Ms. Shipton explained, "but then it turns out, it's an acknowledgement that things are always changing, and sometimes it's better and sometimes it's worse. ... I made it so long ago, and, my God, look at the world now. It was pretty static compared to where we are now."

Other artists in the *Jangueando* exhibition include California native Laura Aguilar; Puerto Rico native Myrna Báez; Los Carpinteros, a group formed in La Havana, Cuba in 1992; Mexico City native Abraham Cruzvillegas; William Cordova, a Lima, Peru native living in Miami; Daiara Tukano of São Paulo, Brazil, and many others.

The artworks of Mr. Muñoz and Ms. Shipton will join El Museo's permanent collection of more than 8,500 artworks. For more information on *Jangueando: Recent Acquisitions, 2021–2025* and selected views of included artworks, visit the [El Museo website](#).

September 2, 2025: This article has been updated to reflect that the Ethel Shipton artwork acquired by El Museo del Barrio is a painting, not a screenprint as earlier indicated.