

RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

Ruiz-Healy Art is excited to present *de la Torre Brothers: Psychopomp*, marking the brothers' second solo exhibition with the gallery and their first in New York City. The exhibition will be on view from May 12 to August 14, 2026. "Psychopomp" literally means the 'guide of souls' for a spiritual guide who leads souls on their journey to the afterlife. The de la Torre Brothers create elaborate, mixed-media glass sculptures and lenticular prints, utilizing the concept of the psychopomp to explore themes of cultural transience. Their Baroque-inspired creatures create visually dense narratives that reflect on "high" versus "low" art, diasporic experiences, and social class stratification through humorous world-building.

Brothers Einar and Jamex de la Torre, born in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 1963 and 1960, respectively, moved to California in 1972. They have collaborated since the 1990s, developing a signature style that combines mixed media and blown-glass sculpture. Now living and working on both sides of the border, their art weaves references to ancient Mexican mythology, Chicano culture, and American life, among a broad range of other influences.

Through their Baroque aesthetic and multicultural references, the artists explore themes of identity and contemporary consumerism by incorporating carefully selected objects sourced from thrift and antique stores. The exhibition utilizes a maximalist Baroque aesthetic to investigate the intersections of identity and modern consumer culture. By integrating a curated selection of found objects—from dice and cameo jewelry to mahjong tiles—the artists employ an additive layering technique that invites multifaceted interpretations. Drawing inspiration from the emotive power of German Expressionism, the pieces in *Psychopomp* navigate the boundaries between the sacred and the profane, offering a guide through the diverse and overlapping paths of human experience.

The brothers use humor and wit, evident in many of their works, to explore themes of human overconsumption and environmental issues. Harkening to Dr. Seuss' fable of the Lorax, their piece *Lorax Salute* portrays the de la Torre's version of the speaker for the trees. Their reimagined Lorax urges viewers to reflect on the weight of humanity's modern footprint, evolving from a playful cartoon character into a more grotesque figure, angry and frustrated with the state of the world.

At the heart of the exhibit is the titular psychopomp, the *Coyote de Almas*, a reference to 'coyotes', a nickname for those who help migrants cross the southern U.S. border safely. Standing four feet tall, this figure exudes vibrant character, adorned with a crown of cacti and holding a staff, with a lamb resting protectively under his arm. The role of a spirit guide is common in the myths of many ancient cultures surrounding death and the beyond. Just as souls seek peace, so do many people in life. "We marveled at how many cultures have this kind of

'usher' deity to guide us from this world to the next dimension. Usually, there is a symbolic 'crossing' of a river or bridge - a point of no return. We have melded the deity as a kind of Nahual or 'spirit animal' that is linked to our own corporal-animal existence," says Einar de la Torre.

The works in *Psychopomp* blend cultural and national influences, reflecting the diverse inspirations behind the brothers' creative process. Myths and folklore permeate many of their works, such as *Brave Heart*, where decorative spokes encircle a central figure, reminiscent of the Stone of the Sun from the Aztec calendar. At the center, a grimacing heart with four limbs extends outward, one hand holding a blade. The *Brave Heart* bears its teeth and raises its arm as a warrior preparing for battle, ready to protect the world that it bleeds for.

Through their evocative combination of mythology and contemporary commentary, Einar and Jamex de la Torre invite viewers to confront the complexities of heritage and the urgent social challenges facing our world today. This exhibition serves as both a celebration of culture and a call to reflect, urging us to recognize the sacred and the profane, the opulent and the ordinary, and our shared responsibility for the future.

About Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Einar and Jamex de la Torre were born in Guadalajara, México, in 1963 and 1960. In a sudden family move, the brothers relocated to the United States in 1972, leaving a traditional Catholic school for a small California beach town. They both attended California State University, Long Beach. Jamex received his BFA in Sculpture in 1983, while Einar decided against pursuing an art degree. The brothers live and work on both sides of the border, the Guadalupe Valley in Baja California, México, and San Diego, California. They have won the USA Artists Fellowship award, the Louis Comfort Tiffany Award, the Joan Mitchell Foundation Award, and the San Diego Art Prize. They have had 18 solo museum exhibitions, completed eight major public art projects, and participated in 4 biennales. Recently, their work has been the subject of solo exhibitions such as *Upward Mobility*, held at the McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, Texas, and their recent traveling exhibition and accompanying book, *Collidoscope: de la Torre Brothers Retro-Perspective* has been held at museums such as the Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa, OK; Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY; Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA, among others. They have been featured and reviewed in publications such as *The New York Times*, *Artnews*, and *Glasstire*.

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 and 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 New York City's Upper

East Side, working in tandem with our gallery in San Antonio to serve as a platform for the dissemination of 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, the 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

RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

Artwork image submission for Culture Place



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Social Media, 2024

Cast resin and mixed media

13.5 x 10 x 1.5 in

34.3 x 25.4 x 3.8 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Return of Feminity, 2026

Cast resin and mixed media

13 x 12.5 x 5 in

33 x 31.8 x 12.7 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Chimerame, 2023

Signed and dated lower center

Blown glass, water jet cut aluminum

34 x 23 x 8 in

86.4 x 58.4 x 20.3 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Coyote de Almas, 2026

Signed and dated lower right

Blown glass, wood sculpture, mixed media

51 x 17 x 12 in

129.5 x 43.2 x 30.5 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Protezione dai Pagliacci, 2026

Signed and dated lower left of forearm

Blown glass, mixed media

30 x 16 x 14 in

76.2 x 40.6 x 35.6 cm

RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Mas Sabe el Diablo, 2020

Signed and dated on the back of the ankles

Blown glass, mixed media

26 x 11 x 10 in

66 x 27.9 x 25.4 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Schedule Conflict, 2023

Signed and dated center back

Blown glass, mixed media

23 x 11 x 9 in

58.4 x 27.9 x 22.9 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Still Eating Cake, 2024

Signed and dated lower center

Blown glass, mixed media

29 x 11 x 11 in

73.7 x 27.9 x 27.9 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Poison Dart Frog, 2023

Signed and dated lower back of frog

Blown glass, cast resin, mixed media

17 x 16 x 11 in

43.2 x 40.6 x 27.9 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Lorax Salute, 2024

Signed and dated behind the neck

Blown glass, cast resin, mixed media

24 x 8 x 12 in

61 x 20.3 x 30.5 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Cannibal, 2023

Signed and dated lower right of base

Blown glass, cast resin base

29 x 14 x 9 in

73.7 x 35.6 x 22.9 cm

RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Transdifferentiation IV, 2017

Signed and dated lower right

Lenticular

59 x 5 in

149.9 x 12.7 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

The Talk, 2015

Signed and dated on the back of the heart

Blown glass, cast resin, mixed media

28 x 16 x 6 in

71.1 x 40.6 x 15.2 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Mezcalera, 2025

Blown Glass

12 x 7 x 5 in

30.5 x 17.8 x 12.7 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Swarm, 2026

Blown glass and mixed media

17.5 x 13 x 2 in

44.5 x 33 x 5.1 cm



Einar and Jamex de la Torre

Bad Decisions, 2025

Mixed media

11 x 8.5 x 2.5 in

27.9 x 21.6 x 6.3 cm