

RICA MAESTAS

CONTACT

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ricamaestas.com

EDUCATION

MA Brown University |
public humanities, Providence,
RI, 2018
**BA University of Southern
California** | *narrative studies*
/ cognitive science / design, LA,
CA, 2016

Studio Museum in Harlem
Museum Education Practicum
2020

AWARDS (ACADEMIC)

Renaissance Scholarship
2016 for interdisciplinary
graduate study awarded by
USC, LA, CA

Global Scholar 2016 for
exceptional research abroad
awarded by USC, LA, CA

The Order of Troy 2016
for contribution to the USC
community awarded by USC,
LA, CA

**Undergraduate Writing
Conference** *First Prize for
Analytical Essay* 2016 awarded
by USC, LA, CA

**Turkish Coalition of
America Travel Grant** 2015
for studying Turkish language
and culture awarded by the
Turkish Coalition of America,
Istanbul, Turkey

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

SITE Santa Fe | Digital Communications & Membership Coordinator
Santa Fe, NM Jan 2020 – present

David Winton Bell Gallery | Curatorial Assistant
Providence, RI Aug 2016 – May 2018

USC Visions & Voices | Student Program Coordinator
LA, CA Dec 2013 – May 2016

The Daily Trojan | Lifestyle Columnist & Arts Reporter *LA, CA Spring 2016*

Kopeikin Gallery | Gallery Assistant
Culver City, CA Sept 2013 - Apr 2014

INSTITUTIONAL PROJECTS

Studio Museum in Harlem | Education *New York, NY Summer 2020*
Joined Studio Museum educators and an online cohort for a 13-week intensive training in museum education theory and practice, programmatic tactics and strategies for varying audiences, and teaching artists of African descent to design a final curriculum on social justice interventions in public space for Santa Fe Public Schools.

David Winton Bell Gallery | Curatorial *Providence, RI, Spring 2018*
Curated the collection highlight exhibition of 20th cent. Mexican art, *Llevando la Cultura: Conflicting Narratives in Mexican Art* with newly accessioned work by Graciela Ituride, gallery lesson curriculum, and public programming featuring a local mariachi band; co-curated a selection of Carrie Mae Weems' *Kitchen Table Series*

RISD Museum | Public Programs *Providence, RI, Spring 2018*
Designed a set of public programs to highlight the Creative Time *Pledges of Allegiance* flags including a flag installation honoring museum volunteers, an informal showcase of two local artists, an information session with two young candidates running for local office, a congressional letter-writing workshop for kids, and a weekend of events developed with and led by contemporary artist, Alex da Corte.

National Hispanic Cultural Center Art Museum | Public Programs
Albuquerque, NM Summer 2017
Collaborated with community members to produce public programs for *Outstanding in his Field: San Ysidro – Patron Saint of Farmers* and *The Piñata Exhibition (Sure to Be a Smash Hit!)*, coordinated artist visits and collaborated on a development strategy to finance them, negotiated loan agreements, drafted guidelines for Coca Cola's High School Balloon Fiesta Piñata Design Contest, and developed interactive signage in the galleries.

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AWARDS (ART)

Brown Arts Initiative Grant 2018 for *moonhaus*, Providence, RI

Brown Arts Initiative Grant 2017 for *Am I Brown Enough Yet?*, Providence, RI

Brown Arts Initiative Grant 2016 for *Santuario*, Providence, RI

REVIEWS

Providence Journal | *Revolution & Intrigue: Exhibit at University's Bell Gallery explores upheaval in 20th cent. Mexico* by Channing Grey, Jan 2018

Brown Daily Herald | *List features 20th cent. Mexican artists* by Elise Ryan, Feb 2018

Brown Daily News | *Bell Gallery to host Melvin Edwards, Carrie Mae Weems exhibitions* by Gillian Kelly, Nov 2017

Brown Daily Herald | *Grad student's exhibit honors New Mexico landmark* by Roland High, Nov 2016

INDEPENDENT PROJECTS

Generous Labors | *Santa Fe Art Institute Labor Residency, Santa Fe, NM*
I will be exploring gift-economies and practices of hospitality to envision a world where generous labors might operate as the dominant culture

moonhaus | *John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities Gallery LAB, Providence, RI, Mar 2018*

Myself and collaborator Julia Renaud invited visitors to consider the resurgence astrology, crystal healing, and earth magic in contemporary popular culture through guided meditation, a themed library, crafting activities, birth chart interpretation guides, an altar to spring, multiple lounge and conversation spaces, and a spring equinox celebration, to discover how these practices inform how we make sense of ourselves, each other, and the world around us.

Santuario | *Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, Providence, RI, Nov 2016*
Through a whimsical shrine and series of talks and workshops, I invited participants to explore the legacy of El Santuario de Chimayó by making offerings of emotional baggage in exchange for sand, symbolizing change and the passing of time. After archiving all contributions and considering participant requests, I entombed the offerings in a public artwork evoking descansos.

CARTharsis | *USC Main Campus (mobile), LA, CA, Apr 2016*
Inspired by El Santuario de Chimayó, *CARTharsis* was a whimsical closure mechanism that collected offerings of emotional baggage and spurred public discourse on modes of emotional release. Per participant requests, I coordinated a ceremonial destruction and burning of the shrine as well as a funeral for the offerings after archiving them.

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PUBLISHED ARTWORK

The Round | *Sleeplessness* and *Single and Domestic AF*, May 2017

SOMOS Latinx Literary Magazine | *The Final Offering*, Dec 2017

The Round | *How Many Hands Does It Take to Hold This Seasons Must Haves?* (cover), *Domestic Bliss*, and *Our Lady of Wherever*, Dec 2016

Make/Shift: Feminisms in Motion | *Follow Me* (front cover) and *Holy Interiors* (back cover), June 2016

Adsum | *Run-Off*, *In the Weeds*, and *Burn Me*, Apr 2013

EXHIBITION HISTORY (OBJECTS)

Feminist Art in the Era of Trump | “Llorona Chingona” Axel Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM, Sept 2020

Remnants: What’s Left Behind | “What’s Left of CARTharsis” Specto Art Space, Harrisonburg, VA, Nov 2019

Brown Arts Initiative Grant Show | “Am I Brown Enough Yet?” Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, Providence RI, Apr 2018

¿Se Acuililló? Groundhog Day | “Party Pelts 3,” Trade Pop-Up, Providence, RI, Feb 2018

Entropy: Chaos and Order | “Party Pelts 2,” Brown University Science Center, Providence, RI, Oct 2017—Mar 2018

¿Se Acuililló? Are You Scared? | “Please Love Me,” AS220, Providence, RI, Oct 2017

The Piñata Exhibition (Sure to Be a Smash Hit!) | “No Más La Lengua Mata,” “Dear Diary,” and “Nestor,” National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM, June 2017—Mar 2018

Brown Arts Initiative Grant Show | “What’s Left (traces of Santuario),” Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, Providence RI, Apr 2017

Touchable Art | “Weeds of the West,” Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, Providence RI, Apr 2017

ATTACH FILES | “Paying our debt to society,” 50/50, Kansas City, MO, Apr 2017

Beyond the Pale | “CARTharsis (documentation),” Think Tank Gallery, LA, CA, May 2016

EXHIBITION HISTORY (PERFORMANCE)

Axel Contemporary | “Birth of Tortilla Baby” Santa Fe Railyards, Santa Fe NM, Aug 2020

PASEO Festival | “Acequia Madre: Tours by La Llorona,” Kit Carson Park and Cemetery, Taos NM, Sept 2019

¿Se Acuililló? Groundhog Day | “Party Pelts 3,” Trade Pop Up, Feb 2018, Providence, RI

SOMOS Latinx Magazine | “The Final Offering,” El Santuario Chimayó, Aug 2017 Chimayó, NM

¿Se Acuililló? Are You Scared? | “soft one,” AS220, Oct 2017, Providence, RI

Entropy: Chaos and Order | “Party Pelts 2,” Brown University Science Library, Oct 2017, Providence, RI

- Practice Space's *How can we practice radical hospitality?*** | *Host Gift Selection Guide* (co-authored with Julia Renaud) Jan 20202
- Public Humanities Blog** | *In Defense of Upspeak: Reclaiming 'feminine' modes of communication at work* Mar 2019
- The Addison Museum of American Art's *Throwing Up Bunnies*** | *In Praise of Barf Bunnies: Triple Candie's 'Throwing Up Bunnies'* (co-authored with Steve Lubar) Feb 2019
- Re: Bell** | *Mark Dion: New England Digs* Nov 2017
- Re: Bell** | *New to the collection: Graciela Iturbide* May 2017
- ArteFuse** | *Mark Leckey: Containers and Their Drivers at MoMA PS1* Dec 2016
- Vagabond Magazine** | *Lost in Preservation: A lamentation and an invitation* Oct 2016
- Brown Daily Herald Post-** | *Santuario* Oct 2016
- Re: Bell** | *Collection Spotlight: Chitra Ganesh* Oct 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *M Lamar introduces new genre of political goth opera* Apr 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *New exhibition at MoCA Grand underwhelms* Apr 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Teacher's Pet: A Sonnet to Schooling* Apr 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Anything for an A: In-class romances part 2* Apr 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *If you wanna be my lover, you gotta get with my friends* Apr 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Feeling myself: A Bad Girls' Guide* Apr 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Jose Gonzalez moves audiences at Walt Disney Concert Hall* Mar 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Tinder is only as scary as you make it* Mar 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Too late to say sorry?* Mar 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Be an adult, break up with everything* Mar 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Attention closure-seekers: This one's for you* Mar 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Eternal sunshine of an unintentionally spotless mind* Feb 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Mutual catfishing: LARPing my Valentine's Day date* Feb 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Everyone I date is Quentin Tarantino* Feb 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Bait and switch* Feb 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Identification anxiety: The making of a name* Jan 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *A good read: reKindling the fire* Jan 2016
- The Daily Trojan** | *Bonnies over Clyde: A lesson in in-class romances* Jan 2016
- The Daily Trojan Blogs - Love U** | *The right swipe and romantic reassurance* Dec 2015