

PRESS RELEASE

LUIS DE JESUS LOS ANGELES IS PLEASED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INAUGURAL EDITION OF UNTITLED ART, HOUSTON

Luis De Jesus Los Angeles is pleased to participate in the inaugural edition of **Untitled Art, Houston** with a group presentation in **Booth B48** featuring **John M. Valadez**, **Evita Tezeno**, **Luis Emilio Romero**, **Francisco Masó**, and **Phung Huynh**. The fair runs September 19-21, 2025 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in downtown Houston. A VIP and Press Preview will be held on September 18, 2025.

Central to the presentation lies the artists' deeply personal connection to the narratives and themes of the works, expressed through paintings, collage, drawing, figuration, abstraction, conceptual art, and social realism. **John M. Valadez** will present a selection of new and recent pastel works that merge social realism with surrealism, characterized by scenes of everyday subjects as they grapple with the realities of their surroundings environments. **Evita Tezeno** and **Phung Huynh**'s artworks reference their familial roots. Tezeno's works are inspired by her youth in South Texas, on the Gulf Coast, and Huynh's graphite portraits on pink donut boxes tell stories of Asian and Pacific Islanders' assimilation into the U.S. The conceptual, geometric abstract paintings of **Luis Emilio Romero** and **Francisco Masó** are inspired by formal geometric abstraction strategies to modernism. Romero's detailed oil paintings embody the textures of Guatemalan woven textiles, a direct reference to his family's connection to weaving; Masó's geometric paintings reference photo-documented scenes of repression in Cuba.

About the Artists

A trailblazer of the early Chicano Arts Movement in the 1970s and 80s, **John M. Valadez**'s work has come to define an iconography of Chicano experience in the city by catalyzing its changing dynamics and reconstructing a mythical allegory that speaks to an alternate vision. Lauded for his groundbreaking realist paintings, with "high art" techniques radically applied to everyday, urban, and working-class scenes of Los Angeles, Valadez is one of the first 20th c. postwar Latinx painters to portray social commentaries with dignity.

Evita Tezeno's mixed-media collage paintings depict scenes of everyday life inspired by her family, friends, and childhood memories in South Texas, animating her vision of a Black America filled with humanity. Bringing together vibrantly colored, hand-painted, patterned papers and heirloom buttons, each canvas becomes a space where presence is not questioned but celebrated.

Luis Emilio Romero's geometric abstract paintings are linked to traditions of Guatemalan woven textiles passed down through his family, employing spirituality and indigenous craft as the structural logic in his intricate compositions. His detailed oil paintings are vessels of process imbued with intention, energy, and devotion. Situated within a discussion of the history of abstract painting, his practice investigates the structures of organizing space through the optics of opacity, saturation, reflection, texture, and tone.

Part of a new generation of Latinx Abstraction, **Francisco Masó** employs geometric abstraction to explore the dynamics of power within state control mechanisms, while also fostering a dialogue on the militarization of Cuban civil society. His designs replicate the striped polo shirts worn by the Cuban secret police, documented in anonymous photographs that he finds on the dark web and which often accompany the paintings.

Phung Huynh's graphite drawings on pink donut boxes address the Cambodian American experience and her own Vietnamese-Cambodian family's assimilation. The boxes are common in independent donut shops in

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Southern California, most of which are owned and operated by Cambodian refugees and immigrants. This new series of drawings reflect on the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War (or American War, as it is known there) and take inspiration from her family's archives of photographs and newspaper articles that document the early years of their resettlement.

For artist's bios, [click here](#).

Media Contact: For further information, including images and previews, please email gallery@luisdejesus.com. On-site at the fair, please call Jay Wingate at 310-838-6000, or visit Booth B48. Website: luisdejesus.com | Instagram: [@luisdejesuslosangeles](#) [#luisdejesuslosangeles](#)

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