

IN YOUR FACE

ARTE CHICANA DOPO C.A.R.A.

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For the first time in Rome, one of the largest exhibitions of contemporary Chicano art will be on view at the Instituto Cervantes

Fifty-four works by 28 artists from the AltaMed Art Collection in collaboration with the Embassy of Mexico in Italy and the Instituto Cervantes in Rome to feature sculptures, photographs, prints, paintings and mixed media through January 21, 2023

LOS ANGELES- September 23, 2022- [In Your Face: Chicano Art After C.A.R.A.](#) (Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation) features 54 works of diverse media such as sculpture, photography, prints, painting, and mixed media by 28 Chicana/o artists. by [AltaMed Health Services](#), the largest federally qualified community health center in the United States will be on view at the Instituto Cervantes in Rome from September 28, 2022 to January 21, 2023. The exhibit is presented in collaboration with the Embassy of Mexico in Italy and the Instituto Cervantes in Rome to expand knowledge of Chicano art in Europe.

Thirty years after C.A.R.A., a traveling exhibit of Chicano/a artists toured the United States, *In Your Face* endeavors to introduce Chicano art to new audiences in Italy through important partnerships with the Embajada de México in Italy and the Instituto Cervantes. It starts where C.A.R.A. ended in 1985, and continues through the present-day, although on a smaller scale. The exhibit includes artwork by the same artists who were included in the original C.A.R.A. exhibition. The exhibition demonstrates how these artists have continued to create artwork that is just as vibrant and powerful, boldly addressing the same themes from C.A.R.A. that remain an integral part of their personal and artistic lives. These themes are socio-political as related to Mexicans, Mexican Americans, and Latinos living and working in the United States; they focus on identity, feminism, and civil rights, referencing American, Chicano, and Mexican cultures and traditions, with a mostly figurative style that evokes strong, emotional personalities and histories. The exhibit aims to improve appreciation of Chicano art as part of the greater canon of art history, and inclusion in American art conversations. The exhibition contributes to building and sustaining cultural bridges between Los Angeles and Rome, between the United States, Mexico, and Spain, and between artists of Mexican heritage and the rich artistic communities in Italy.

"We are honored to be partnering with the Embassy of Mexico in Italy and we are deeply grateful to the Instituto Cervantes in Rome for hosting the exhibition in its gallery," says AltaMed President and CEO Cástulo de la Rocha. "AltaMed was founded more than 50 years ago as a

community health care network committed to social justice and equity. We have filled all of our clinics with art, because we believe that art is essential to the healing of bodies, spirits and communities and that everyone deserves access to great art. Chicano art is bold, festive, imaginative, profound and influential, as is the Mexican-American immigrant experience."

In Your Face includes all of the artists in the original CARA exhibition. Of these artists, 17 are male and 11 are female artists; 22 are still living; and 15 reside in Los Angeles. The dates of the artworks range from 1986 to 2021. The media include paintings, photography, prints (screen prints and lithographs), sculptures, pastels on paper, and mixed media. The majority of the artwork (47 works) is part of the AltaMed Art Collection. In CARA, over forty murals were projected as part of the exhibition, the video presentation of Chicano murals will be divided by pre- and post-1985, prepared by Isabel Rojas-Williams. An extended gallery guide in Italian and Spanish will also be printed.

"I am proud to have worked with the Instituto Cervantes and AltaMed to bring the largest and most important exhibition of contemporary Mexican-American art to Italy," said Mexican Ambassador Carlos Garcia de Alba. "After being seen in various cities in Mexico and the United States, it is now a privilege to see the AltaMed Art Collection exhibited for the first time in Europe."

"Chicano art has been an integral part of American art since the mid-20th century," explains Dr. Susana Smith Bautista, AltaMed Chief Art Curator. "It is a visual expression of the Mexican-American experience in the United States, diverse in styles and messages. These works on display are a sign of the vitality of art adapting to changing times."

[Images](#) from the exhibition for editorial purposes courtesy of the AltaMed Art Collection:

To learn more about the exhibition, visit: <https://cultura.cervantes.es/roma/it/in-your-face%3a-chicano-art-after-cara/150103>.

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About CARA:

The exhibition title *In Your Face* is taken from the 1990 exhibition *Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation* (CARA) that started in Los Angeles and traveled to ten museums in the United States, Mexico (Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City), and Spain (Museo de América, Madrid) for three years. Organized by the University of California Los Angeles Wight Art Gallery, CARA was a groundbreaking exhibition that included 180 Chicano/a artists and arts collectives from the period of 1965 to 1985. It was the first time that a Chicano art exhibition received major press coverage, and the first to be included in mainstream museums at a national and international level. The exhibition focused on the Chicano Movement of that historic twenty-year period, on the socio-political conditions of Mexicans, cultural politics, feminism, civil rights, and on Chicano culture.

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About AltaMed Health Services

Largely drawn from the holdings of the AltaMed Art Collection, this grouping of works represents a small portion of what has become one of the largest collections of Chicano/a art in the world. AltaMed's collecting practice strives for greater equality, representation, and access to the arts, achieved through sponsorships, publications, loans, and exhibitions such as this one. AltaMed understands that when people receive care that considers their individual health needs and respects their cultural preferences; they grow healthy—and help their families do the same. Since 1969, we have delivered complete medical services to communities across Southern California. Our team of qualified multicultural and bilingual professionals—from these same communities—is focused on eliminating barriers to primary care services, senior care programs, and essential community services. With nearly 50 accredited health centers and service facilities, we remain committed and ready to help you grow healthy at any age.

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