

DISPLACED

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS CONFRONT THE GLOBAL REFUGEE CRISIS

March 21 – September 6, 2020

January 13, 2020, Santa Fe, NM—SITE Santa Fe is honored to present *Displaced: Contemporary Artists Confront the Global Refugee Crisis*, an exhibition focusing on human migrations and displacements of the past, present, and future. Through works created in a range of media, artists from around the globe foreground forgotten histories, ask us to bear witness to the highest levels of human displacement on record, and imagine futures where migration is essential for survival. The exhibition poses critical questions around this global crisis, and illuminates the complexities surrounding the urgent social, political, and environmental issues that frame the circumstances of displacement. This exhibition takes the visitor on a powerful, emotional journey, serving as a catalyst for human compassion and activism by reigniting a sense of common humanity, leveraging empathy, and cultivating understanding across communities.

The show includes the work of ten internationally acclaimed artists, and is accompanied by community-centered education and public programs that offer accessible entry points to experiencing and understanding the global refugee crisis. The goals of *Displaced* are to bring this vast and urgent crisis to the forefront of our visitors' consciousness, cultivate an understanding and appreciation of refugees that reside in northern New Mexico communities, and plant a seed to inspire action for positive social change both locally and globally.

Displaced exhibiting artists and artworks are as follows:

Harriet Bart (US) and **Yu-Wen Wu** (Taiwan/US) will present *Leavings/Belongings* a work that will evolve from a SITE Center artist residency and public program at SITE Santa Fe.

Candice Breitz (South Africa) presents *Love Story* (2016), a 7-channel video installation sharing the stories of 6 refugees from around the globe.

Reena Saini Kallat (India) presents a large-scale handwoven world map of human migration trends titled *Woven Chronicle* (2016).

Hew Locke (UK/Guyana) presents two large-scale murals of Greek and Mexican Refugee Shares from the early 20th century along with several of his recent boat sculptures evoking ocean crossings of migrants over the centuries.

Cannupa Hanska Luger (US) presents *Future Ancestral Technologies* a new installation that articulates a futuristic science-fiction narrative in which human migration is essential for survival and predicated on an understanding of Indigenous perspectives.

Guadalupe Maravilla (El Salvador, US) presents works that draw on his own personal migratory history and displacement. His work incorporates his pre-colonial Central American ancestry, personal mythology, and autobiographical story-telling.

Richard Mosse (Ireland) presents his haunting monumental heat map series of panoramic photographs, and stills from the 3-channel video installation *Incoming* (2017), shot with military-grade thermal surveillance camera technology normally used for battlefield situational awareness and for long-range border enforcement. *Incoming* documents episodes of mass migration across Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa.

The Refugee Nation: a group that formed around the refugee athletes of the 2016 Summer Olympics is represented by the flag designed by **Yara Said** (Syria) and anthem composed by **Moutaz Arian** (Syria).

The List: a massive installation that features the names of more than 35,597 refugees, asylum seekers and migrants (number as of September 2018) who have lost their lives trying to reach Europe since 1993. It is compiled and updated every year by the Amsterdam-based organization **UNITED for Intercultural Action**.

and featuring **Human Flow** by **Ai Weiwei**

Ai Weiwei (China): screens his powerful documentary film *Human Flow* (2017) which follows a chain of urgent human stories of displacement that stretch across the globe and include accounts from Afghanistan, France, Greece, Germany, and Iraq.

Displaced is organized by SITE Santa Fe and co-curated by Irene Hofmann, SITE's Phillips Director & Chief Curator, and Brandee Caoba, Assistant Curator.

Thank You

Early support for **Displaced** is generously provided by:

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Robin Merlo & Michael Lescander
Bill Miller
Leigh Moiola & Charles Dale
Christophe Olson
Jason Saslow & Frania D'Alessio

Special Events and Public Programs

A diverse array of public programs will accompany *Displaced*. A preliminary overview of events follows:

OPENING EVENTS:

Friday, March 20, 2020

5 - 7:30 pm Members Opening
7:30 pm Opening Night Artist and Community Dinner

Saturday, March 21, 2020

Displaced Community Day 10 am - 5 pm
Free admission with drop-in tours with participating artists throughout the day

PROGRAMMING:

DIGEST THIS!

This monthly interdisciplinary public program series engages audiences in timely and important cultural conversations by offering creative and inspiring "bite-sized" talks followed by a tasting prepared by a local chef. The 2020 Digest This! programs will be centered in scholarship related to the works on view in *Displaced* and are made possible in part with support from the New Mexico Humanities Council.

More programs and dates to be announced.

LOCAL COLLABORATION:

Beyond Borders

The School of Advanced Research, Center for Contemporary Arts, and SITE Santa Fe join forces to address the global refugee crisis and ongoing US/Mexico immigration issues through the lens of the arts and social sciences.

Beginning this spring, SITE Santa Fe in collaboration with The School of Advanced Research (SAR) and Center for Contemporary Arts (CCA), presents Beyond Borders, a series of installations and events starting with [Hostile Terrain 94](#), a participatory art project and exhibition, scheduled to open May 8-10, 2020, and intended to call attention to the realities of migration and border policy in our hemisphere, organized by the [Undocumented Migration Project](#) (UMP), and based on the work of SAR Fellow Jason de León.

About SITE Santa Fe

SITE Santa Fe opened in 1995 to present what was then the only international biennial of contemporary art in the United States, and one of only a handful of biennials around the world. From the beginning, SITE established a commitment to a risk-taking and visionary perspective that continues to drive its programs today. Year-round exhibitions and educational programs encourage the creative and intellectual potential of the audience and uphold the region's tradition of fostering avant-garde art.

As an institution with a year-round contemporary art program, SITE hosts an Art & Culture series of lectures and performances, as well as an extensive education and outreach program for local schools, all of which attract over 20,000 local, national and international visitors annually. Since its launch, SITE has presented over 100 exhibitions—including eleven biennials—of works by over 700 international artists.

SITE Santa Fe is grateful for the support of SITE’s Board of Directors and many individuals and the following: The Brown Foundation Inc. of Houston; The City of Santa Fe Arts Commission and the Lodgers' Tax for the Arts; The Hayes Foundation; The City of Santa Fe Children and Youth Commission; The Millstream Fund; Kathryn O’Keeffe Charitable Foundation; The City of Santa Fe Occupancy Tax Advisory Board; Santa Fe County; The Santa Fe Hestia Fund; Century Bank; New Mexico Humanities Council; New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts; The Sulica Fund; and Thornburg Investment Management.



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