

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXHIBITION: *Mujeres de Maiz: Twenty Years of ARTivism & Herstory en LA*

ON VIEW: March 4-May 27, 2017

LOCATION: LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, 501 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**NEW LA PLAZA EXHIBITION EXPLORES THE LEGACY OF WOMEN'S CULTURAL,
POLITICAL AND CREATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH MUJERES DE MAIZ'S
RETROSPECTIVE ON VIEW
MARCH 4 – MAY 29**

*Women's History Month Launches with Groundbreaking Exhibition Celebrating
Ancestral Traditions and Women-Led ARTivism*

LOS ANGELES - (February XX, 2017) - LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes (LA Plaza) and Mujeres de Maiz (MdM) present *Mujeres de Maiz: Twenty Years of ARTivism & Herstory en LA*, a sensory-engaging, retrospective exhibition celebrating the legacy of women's culturally, politically and spiritually-grounded creativity. The exhibition is on view from March 4 through May 29, 2017.

LA Plaza, located in downtown Los Angeles, will be transformed into a dynamic codex inviting visitors to experience the Mujeres de Maiz collectives' holistic creativity, through paintings, clothing, historic photographs, ephemera and installations that will envelop and engage all the senses. The works are rooted in ancestral knowledge and connect the mind, body and spirit. Working as a collective has allowed Mujeres de Maiz to build a large, powerful network of participants and collaborators.

"Mujeres de Maiz should be understood as more than a collective, we are a movement, a sacred space where so many talented and visionary women have contributed and collaborated over the span of twenty years and established a beautiful network with infinite possibilities," said Ana Guajardo, co-curator of the exhibition.

"In this time of great change and turmoil in our country, we are excited to share our empowering ARTivism and herstory with others to inspire and transform as it has done for each of us," added Felicia Montes, Director and Co-founder of Mujeres de Maiz.

Since its founding in 1997, Mujeres de Maiz has worked as a prolific women's ARTivist and wellness effort combining traditions of feminist, LGBTQ and civil rights activism with indigenous practices to create sacred spaces within diverse communities while honoring knowledge and experiences that have often been suppressed or ignored.

LA Plaza will host a series of public programs complementing *Mujeres de Maiz: Twenty Years of ARTivism & Herstory en LA* throughout the run of the exhibition, including wellness events, art and culinary workshops, a poetry procession, performance art and roundtable discussions on topics represented in the exhibition. Related programs can be found on www.lapca.org and on the [LA Plaza Facebook page](#).

RELATED PROGRAMMING

Saturday, March 4, 2017, 3-5pm | Free

Mujeres de Maiz 20 Years of ARTivism and Herstory en L.A.

Retrospective exhibition opening reception

Saturday, March 4, 2017, 5pm-Doors/Vendors/Food; 6pm - Show | \$20-\$50/ LA Plaza

Mujeres de Maiz 20th Anniversary Live Art Show Festival

Donation Fundraiser for Mujeres de Maiz. An intercultural, interdisciplinary intergenerational arts experience with performance ofrendas of music, spoken word, dance, artisans, vendors, and more featuring womyn and queer/trans people of color. Performers include Chingona Fire, Chulita Vinyl Club, D'Lo, Irene Diaz, Maya Jupiter and Medusa The Gangsta Goddess among other special guests. All ages, general admission.

Friday, March 17, 2017, 7-9pm | \$20

Tea & Paint w/ Liliflor Art

Experience healing and relaxing loose leaf brewed tea while practicing basic painting techniques connected to culture. Art supplies and tea are provided. No experience needed. Ages 13 and up.

Thursday, March 30, 2017, 6pm

Mujeres en Movimiento: A poetry procession for the people

Join Mujeres de Maiz as they share poetry and connect communities from Boyle Heights to La Placita Olvera. Writers will share poetry as well as new works in conversation with the art featured in the exhibition. The procession will begin at Mariachi Plaza and will conclude at LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes.

Saturday, April 8, 2017, 11am-6pm | Free

Platicas: Power, Protest, Prayer

A day of conversations about Mujeres de Maiz's work, lineage, spirit, and politics featuring artists, academics and elders.

Friday, April 13, 2017, 7-9pm | \$15

Platicas y Pruebas: Xicana Edible Memories and Landscapes w/ Cocina Manakurhini

Celebrating Native-based foods, Cocina Manakurhini, stirs up seasonal dishes a la Xicana inspired by diasporic and place-based flavors that honor the sacRed geographies of our traveling homelands and Tongva foodscapes.

Sunday, April 23, 2017, 12-4pm | Free

4 Directions AlterNative Wellness Clinic: A Justice based Holistic Health Event

Join us for a free event supporting wellness to, by and for the people with free consultations, treatments, workshops, presentations, vendors, and more.

Thursday, May 11, 2017, 8-10pm | Free

Full Moon Coyolxauhqui Circle

The Coyolxauhqui Circle is a full moon women's talking circle based in ritual and focused on wellness in mind, body, and spirit.

Sunday, May 28, 3-5pm | Free

Under the Pirul w/ Cantos de La Tierra

Join Mujeres de Maiz facilitator Berenice Dimas of Cantos de la Tierra for a talk about the use of the pirul tree in ritual and for everyday wellness. She will be sharing how to create different medicines with the pirul. This is part of the closing circle event for the exhibition at LA Plaza.

ABOUT LA PLAZA: LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes is the nation's premier center of Mexican American culture offering interactive exhibits and dynamic programs engaging visitors of all backgrounds to explore and contribute to the ongoing story of Mexican Americans in Los Angeles and beyond. Located near the site where Los Angeles was founded in 1781, LA Plaza's mission is to celebrate and cultivate an appreciation for the enduring and evolving influence of Mexican American culture, with a specific focus on the unique Mexican American experience in Los Angeles and Southern California.

LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, 501 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Hours: M, W, & Th, 12-5 pm, Fri-Sun 12-6 pm

Admission: FREE

Website: www.lapca.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LAPlazaLA

Twitter: [@LAPLAZALA](https://twitter.com/LAPLAZALA)

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Note to editors & reporters:

"LA" in "LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes" is part of the official name and should be capitalized

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Mujeres de Maiz

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