



HECTOR DIONICIO MENDOZA
THE ARMORY SHOW | FOCUS | BOOTH F4

LUIS DE JESUS LOS ANGELES

Hector Dionicio Mendoza

Taking inspiration from oral histories, ethnobotany, and personal experiences learned from his grandfather's practice as a fifth-generation curandero (shaman), Hector Dionicio Mendoza's work immerses viewers into a world evocative of Magical Realism. The installation at The Armory Show will include four new figurative-abstract sculptural and wall-based works that explore themes of migration, flight, memory, identity, myth, resilience, healing, and self-actualization. His subjects are influenced by individuals and timeless virtues that have inspired him throughout his life. The sculptures don feathers at different stages of evolution, with figures turning and twisting in flight or reaching for the heavens. As a metaphor for flight and learning to fly, the feather offers a contemporary nod to its use as a venerated material in the histories of Indigenous, pre-Columbian, and Mexican art, in addition to the sacred feather rituals performed to cleanse and heal our environments.

Mendoza's connections to immigrant labor and kinship with nature further embodies narratives expressed in the work through its materials, forms, and subject matter. He utilizes materials associated with the natural world—such as earth, tree bark, flora, and feathers; materials related to labor—such as corrugated cardboard, cement, glass, and cinderblocks; and quotidian found and recycled objects. In addressing the many uncertainties and complexities of migration, Mendoza manages a poetic flux between the familiar and the awe-inspiring with his ability to evoke weight, emotion, struggle, and hope. At once fraught with socio-political realities and the release of possibilities, Mendoza's sculptures catalyze stories in which metaphors take flight and inspire viewers to enter into a space where everyone can share their struggles and overcome challenges.



Hector Dionicio Mendoza

On the Edge of Faith and Hope/ Al Filo de la Fe y la Esperanza, 2024

Mixed media (spray paint on wood panel, cardboard, concrete, acrylic paint, feathers, plaster, eucalyptus bark, wood, nail polish, fake eyelashes, acrylic brush bristles)

105 x 140 x 18 in (266.7 x 355.6 x 45.7 cm)

\$60,000





Hector Dionicio Mendoza
Morir o Volar/ Die or Fly (Lalo), 2023
Mixed media (cardboard, epoxy, rubber cement, concrete,
cinder blocks, clay, wood, metal, painted feathers)
87 x 30 x 15 in (221 x 76.2 x 38.1 cm)
\$22,000



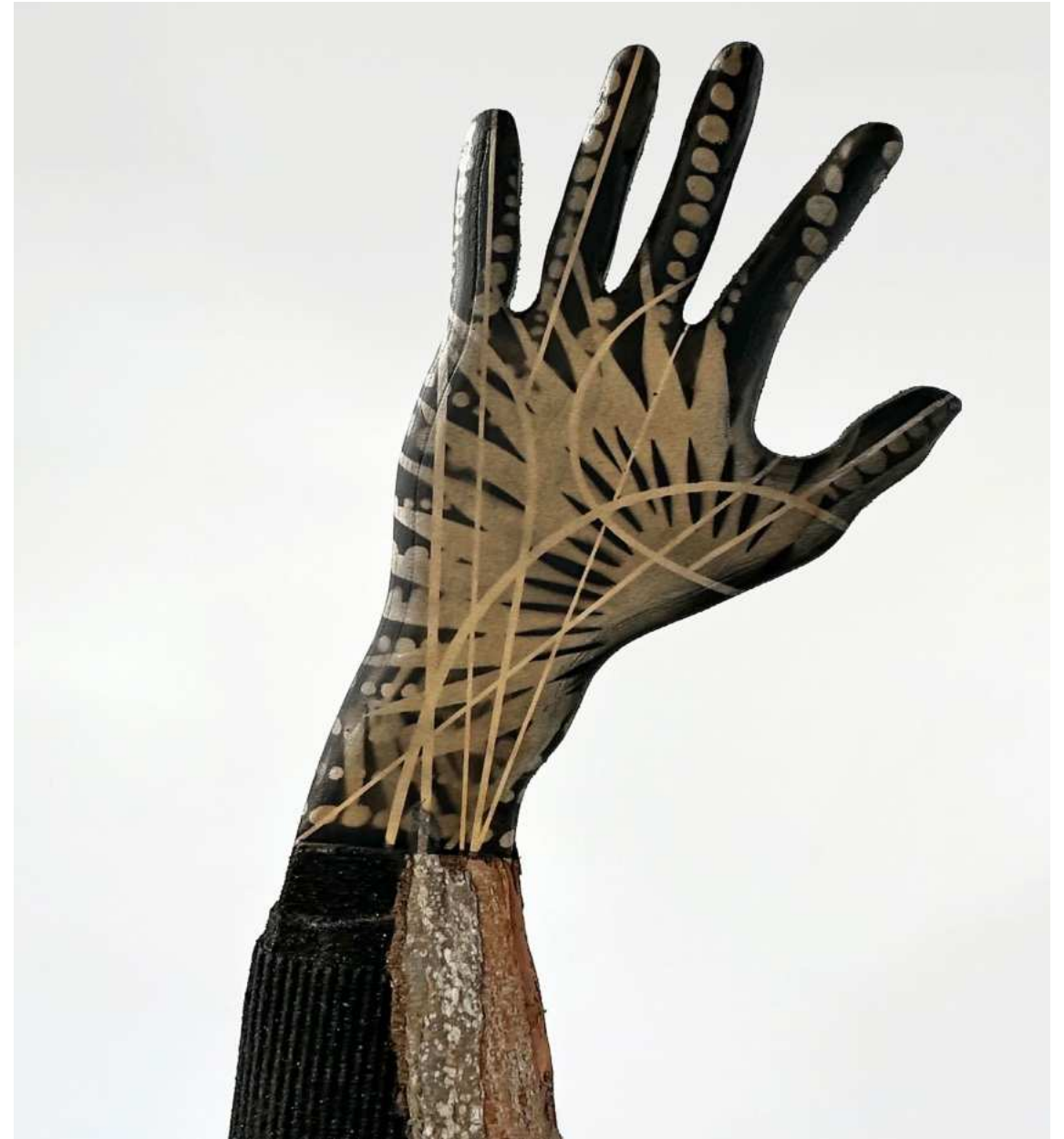
Hector Dionicio Mendoza
Morir o Volar/ Die or Fly (Lalo)
Details



Hector Dionicio Mendoza
*Memories of the Wilderness/
Recuerdos de la Maleza*, 2024
Mixed media
(spray paint on 3 wood panels)
96 x 144 in (243.8 x 365.8 cm)
\$45,000



Hector Dionicio Mendoza
*Sprouting Feathers to Take Flight/
Retoñando Plumas Para Impulsar Vuelo, 2024*
Mixed media (eucalyptus bark, wood, black sand, feathers, spray paint, plastic rings)
96 x 14 x 12 in (243.8 x 35.6 x 30.5 cm)
\$20,000



Hector Dionicio Mendoza
Sprouting Feathers to Take Flight/ Retoñando Plumas Para Impulsar Vuelo
Details



Hector Dionicio Mendoza

Hector Dionicio Mendoza (b.1969, Uruapan, Michoacan, MX) lives in Salinas, CA, and holds an MFA from the Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT and a BFA from California College of the Arts, Oakland, CA. He is an Associate Professor of Sculpture and Installation in the Visual and Public Art Department at California State University Monterey Bay. Mendoza has exhibited throughout the United States, Europe, Japan, and Mexico, and his work was a highlight of the California Biennial 2022 at the Orange County Museum of Art, in Costa Mesa, CA. This fall, he will present a solo exhibition at the Boise Museum of Art. He is the recipient of the 2022 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Biennial Grant; other awards include the Fleishhacker Foundation's Eureka Fellowship (2004), Kunst Now (2005) in Berlin, and Eco-Concierte (2007) in Mexico City. He has participated in artist residencies in Europe, including a six-month residency at KunstFutur in Switzerland (2000), The Bossard Project in Berlin (2001), Casa Santos in Barcelona (2002), and The Putney Arts Center in London (2003). Mendoza was awarded the prestigious Lucas Artist Residency (2015) at Montalvo Arts Center in Saratoga, CA. In 2021, working together with the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum and the Department of Latinx Studies, Mendoza helped to create and fund the inaugural Mariposa Prize, named after his work "Mariposa/Butterfly," which entered the museum's collection that year. Mendoza's work resides in prominent collections, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; Mt. Holyoke Museum of Art, MA; The Bunker/Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, Palm Beach, FL; The Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH; and OZ Art NWA, Bentonville, AR, among other public and private collections.

LUIS DE JESUS LOS ANGELES

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