

PRESS RELEASE

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston

#PaulRamírezJonas
#atCAMH

ART ON THE LAWN AN ONGOING SERIES



Paul Ramírez Jonas
Publicar X, 2017
Rock, cork, adhesive, and push pins
Courtesy the artist, commissioned by the
Contemporary Arts Museum Houston
Photo by Ronald L. Jones

HOUSTON, TX (April 17, 2017)—The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (CAMH) is pleased to announce the installation of a newly commissioned work by Paul Ramírez Jonas as part of the museum’s ongoing *Art on the Lawn* series. *Publicar X* (2017) is the 10th iteration in the artist’s ongoing series, *Publicar*, and extends his 25-year survey exhibition *Atlas, Plural, Monumental*—on view in CAMH’s Brown Foundation Gallery from April 29–August 6, 2017—into the museum’s Eleanor and Frank Freed Garden. *Publicar X* will be installed for one year, through April 2018.

The exhibition’s curator, Dean Daderko, explains that “like many works in Ramírez Jonas’s oeuvre, the *Publicar* series looks at typologies of monuments—in this case boulders fitted with bronze plaques, that are common in parks and at historical sites.” Such markers often contain typeset language describing past incidents or

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Mark Flood
Rabbit, 1988/2006
Patinated bronze; Edition of 9
Courtesy the artist
Photo by Casey K. Betts

individuals of special significance. Ramírez Jonas upends our expectations by replacing the bronze plaque with natural cork to create a public bulletin board. Visitors are encouraged to use provided push-pins to attach personal items to the cork so passersby can see them.

If public monuments are typically fashioned in materials with an air of permanence such as marble, stone, and bronze, *Publicar X* foregrounds the temporal, improvised, and ephemeral. Unlike the inscriptions found on plaques and the bases of monuments that speak in the singular voice of the state, *Publicar X* embraces a diversity of ideas and viewpoints. “In this monument, all we need is a scrap of paper, a pen, and a thumbtack to publish our voice” states Ramírez Jonas. He continues: “I called this series *Publicar* because in Spanish the word *publicar* means ‘to publish.’ You’re also literally conjugating the word public. I like the idea that *publicar* means to make things public. That’s what this monument does.”

ABOUT ART ON THE LAWN

Art on the Lawn is designed to activate the exterior of the Museum in order to provide a gathering point for the Houston community to engage with contemporary art outside of a traditional gallery space. This series showcases rotating work by artists featured in CAMH exhibitions, and works are installed in the Eleanor and Frank Freed Garden—an integral part of the lively corridor between CAMH, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and the Jung Center. Past works featured in the Eleanor and Frank Freed Garden as part of this series include *Endless* by Joseph Havel, installed in the Carol Chiles Ballard Fountain, and *Rabbit* by Mark Flood.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Paul Ramírez Jonas was born in 1965 in California. He lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. He has had solo exhibitions at The Exploratorium, San Francisco, California (2014); Pinacoteca do Estado, São Paulo, Brazil (2011); The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, Connecticut (2008); The Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, Texas (2007); at Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, England (2004) and Cornerhouse, Manchester, England (2004). He has also exhibited with Koenig & Clinton (NYC); Roger Björkholmen (Sweden); Galeria Nara Roesler (São Paulo); and Postmasters Gallery (NYC). His work has been included in group exhibitions at the Guggenheim Museum (NYC), P.S.1. Contemporary Art Center (NYC), and The New Museum (NYC), and at The Whitechapel (London), the Irish Museum of Modern Art (Dublin), and the Kunsthaus Zurich (Switzerland). Ramírez Jonas also participated in the 1st Johannesburg Biennale, the 1st Seoul Biennial,

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Joseph Havel
Endless (installation view), 2013
Bronze and polyurethane resin
130 × 16 × 16 inches
Courtesy the artist and Hiram Butler Gallery
Photo by Max Fields

the 6th Shanghai Biennial, the 28th Sao Paulo Biennial, the 53rd Venice Biennial, and the 7th Bienal do Mercosul, Porto Alegre, Brazil. His works are included in the collections of the Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, TX; Bronx Museum, New York, NY; the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH; New Museum, New York, NY; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, New York, NY; and Malmö Konstmuseum, Malmö, Sweden.

EXHIBITION SUPPORT

Atlas, Plural, Monumental is generously supported by Mary and Marcel Barone, Business Solutions International, and Cullen K. Geiselman. The exhibition is also made possible in part by a grant from the Union Pacific Foundation.



This exhibition is made possible by the patrons, benefactors, and donors to the Museum's Friends of Steel Exhibitions: Director's Circle—Chinhui Juhn and Eddie Allen, Faye Sarofim, and Ms. Louisa Stude Sarofim. Curator's Circle—Mr. and Mrs. I.H. Kempner III. Major Exhibition Circle—A Fare Extraordinaire, Bergner and Johnson Design, Jereann Chaney, Barbara and Michael Gamson, George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation, Blakely and Trey Griggs, Leslie and Mark Hull, Jackson and Company, KPMG, LLP, Beverly and Howard Robinson, and Michael Zilkha. Perspectives Exhibitions Circle - Ruth Dreessen and Thomas Van Laan, Glen Gonzalez and Steve Summers, Louise D. Jamail, Leigh and Reggie Smith, Mr. Wallace Wilson, and The Susan Vaughan Foundation, Inc. Art Outside the Box Circle—Allison and David Ayers, Candace S. Baggett, Marley Lott, and Elisa Stude Pye and Cris Pye.

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GENERAL SUPPORT

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United is the Official Airline of the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston.

CAMH MISSION

The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is a leading destination to experience innovative art. CAMH actively encourages public engagement with its exhibitions through its educational programs, publications, and online presence.

ALWAYS FRESH, ALWAYS FREE

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston is located at 5216 Montrose Boulevard, at the corner of Montrose and Bissonnet, in the heart of Houston's Museum District. Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10AM–7PM, Thursday 10AM–9PM, Saturday 10AM–6PM, and Sunday 12PM–6PM. Admission is always free. For more information, visit CAMH.ORG or call 713 284 8250.