

PASSERSBY 02: ESTHER McCOY

18.FEB.-19.MAR.2017

MEXICO CITY – February 18, 2017 – From February 18 to March 19, 2017, Museo Jumex will present the second edition of the *Passersby* series focuses on the American writer and architecture critic Esther McCoy (1904-1989) and on the country that she saw during her travels to Mexico in the 1950s.

The peculiar Mexican modernist language that McCoy observed in emblematic buildings like those of the Ciudad Universitaria (University City) and the residential area Jardines del Pedregal profoundly influenced her way of relating to architecture. In a way, one could say that the pairing of the international style and regional references that McCoy described in her writings for widely circulating publications like *Arts and Architecture* and the *Los Angeles Times* had an impact on the development of Californian architecture and design during that time period.

Passersby 02: Esther McCoy investigates this flow of references and ideas between Mexico and California; international style and popular styles; Luis Barragán and Rudolph Schindler; Clara Porset and Richard Neutra, through archival material like manuscripts, photographs and audio recordings from the McCoy archive at the Smithsonian Institution. The exhibition also emphasizes McCoy's extended stay in Cuernavaca and presents some of the fictional texts that she conceived there. Her way of writing in this phase of her life not only makes direct reference to the sociopolitical setting of Cuernavaca during those years, but also reflects the important relationship she forged with the American novelist Theodore Dreiser in the early years of her career as a writer.

The exhibition also includes the work of contemporary artists such as Jill Magid, Terence Gower and Leonor Antunes, which provide a retrospective look on the development of Mexican modernism and at the same time reflect the invisible flow of ideas between artists and the contexts in which they perform their work.

The *Passersby* series consists of biographical and documentary-style micro-exhibitions focused on historical figures from abroad who have passed through Mexico and influenced the development of artistic discourse in the country. In close dialogue with the documentary component of the *Passersby* series, the exhibitions include works by contemporary artists whose own reflections run parallel to the themes explored in each exhibition, in order thus to offer a contemporary interpretation of these important historical figures' passage through Mexico.

Museo Jumex thanks the support of Galería Labor, Eduardo Prieto De la Lama and Archivo Clara Porset. Centro de Investigaciones de Diseño Industrial, Facultad de Arquitectura. UNAM.

Organized by: José Esparza Chong Cuy and Rodrigo Ortiz Monasterio.

Viridiana Zavala, Curatorial Assistant, Museo Jumex.

MUSEO JUMEX

Museo Jumex is the Fundación Jumex Arte Contemporáneo's main platform. It opened its doors to the public in November 2013 as an institution devoted to contemporary art, whose aim was not only to serve a broad and diverse public, but also to become a laboratory for experimentation and innovation in the arts. Through its exhibitions and public programs, the Museo Jumex aspires to become a relevant institution in the field of art by producing and co-producing original exhibitions and research, familiarizing our audiences with the concepts and contexts that inform current art practice. Through the use of critical and pedagogical tools, the museum's educational programs further the institution's commitment to build links between contemporary art and the public.

ADMISSION

General Admission / \$50

Mexican citizens / \$30

Teachers */ \$15

Free for: Children under 15 / Students* / Senior citizens*

*with valid ID

Sundays free

HOURS

Tuesday - Sunday / 11AM - 8PM

Monday / Closed

PRESS CONTACT

RUTH OVSEYEVITZ
ruth@fundacionjumex.org
+52 (55) 5395 2615 ext. 107

ADRIANA GIL
adrianag@fundacionjumex.org
+52 (55) 5395 2615 ext. 103

MUSEO JUMEX
MIGUEL DE CERVANTES SAAVEDRA 303
COLONIA GRANADA
11520, CIUDAD DE MÉXICO

T.
(55) 5395 2615
(55) 5395 2618

FUNDACIONJUMEX.ORG