

For Immediate Release
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City Portraits (Retratos de Ciudad)

New Work by Marcos Ramírez ERRE

Exhibition Dates: August 17, 2012 through October 20, 2012

MACLA/Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana is pleased to present *City Portraits (Retratos de Ciudad)*, a solo exhibition of new work by Tijuana-based artist Marcos Ramírez ERRE. Ramírez will construct a complex portrait of Silicon Valley in wood and steel using available data, statistics, demographic and economic studies and maps to examine social, economic and cultural borders within the Valley of Heart's Delight. Ramírez's work encourages the audience to look closer at the dynamics and roots that have made Silicon Valley a successful epicenter, the groups of people that comprise its success and the disparities between them.

Born in Tijuana in 1961, Ramirez ERRE earned a law degree from the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California before immigrating to the United States, where he worked as a carpenter for 17 years and began to make art. Describing his works simply as "constructions that accommodate ideas," he frequently employs recognizable formats—traffic signs, eye charts, tourist guideposts—to present unembellished and often unsettling information.

Through his varied oeuvre in mixed-media, interventions, and site-specific installations, ERRE examines ideas of crossing political, social, economic, cultural, and aesthetic borders. Informed by politics and social consciousness, ERRE's work presents facts and information which encourages the viewer to look at issues from an alternate point of view that challenges ideas and opinions accepted by mainstream society.

He first received critical acclaim for his contributions to inSITE94 and inSITE97, bi-national art festival in San Diego and Tijuana. Since that time, he has exhibited in one-person shows in the United States and Mexico; was represented at the Biennial São Paulo-Valencia: *Encuentro entre dos mares* in Valencia, Spain; the 2007 Moscow Biennale, the VII and VI Habana Biennial in Cuba; and showed at the 2000 Whitney Biennial in New York. He has been included in several important group exhibitions, including *Made in California* at the Los Angeles County Museum of

Art (2002); an exhibition at the Wexner Center for the Arts (2003); *Lateral Thinking: Art of the 1990s* (2003); and *Baja to Vancouver: The West Coast and Contemporary Art* (2004). He is a recipient of a 2007 United States Artist Fellowship award and grant from the Fondo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes, Mexico, and his work is in private collections and museums in the region.

City Portraits (Retratos de Ciudad) is held in conjunction with the 2012 ZERO1 Biennial themed 'Seeking Silicon Valley' which takes place September 12-December 8, 2012. Find out more at www.zero1biennial.org.

Friday, September 14, 2012 at 7pm

Join us for the opening reception in conjunction with the 2012 ZERO1 Biennial.

Saturday, September 15, 2012 at 10am

Join us for coffee and an engaging conversation with Marcos Ramirez ERRE.

Gallery Hours:

Wednesday & Thursday, 12pm to 7pm

Friday & Saturday, 12pm to 5pm

And by special appointment

Free Admission

MACLA/Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana

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Image credits:

1. Marcos Ramírez EREE
2. Marcos Ramírez EREE, *Cruce de Caminos (Crossroads)*, polychrome aluminum boxes with text on stainless steel post; 2010