

LUMINARIA 2018

# LUMINARIA

CONTEMPORARY ARTS FESTIVAL

# 2018

Visual Arts  
Performance  
Dance | Music  
Literary

LUMINARIA  
CONTEMPORARY ARTS FESTIVAL





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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
LuminariaSA.org | 210-721-1670  
PO Box 120188, San Antonio, TX 78212

Luminaria's 2018 Contemporary Arts Festival offers much to celebrate!

As San Antonio's only multi-arts festival, we are a connecting force between the many art forms, genres and practices of an urban city. Supported by the City of San Antonio's Department of Arts & Culture and a network of philanthropy, Luminaria celebrates 11 years of showcasing ART to ALL for FREE.

As an independent non-profit organization, the magic of Luminaria is made possible by artists, curators, and organizations working together. For the first time, artist awardees of grants from both the Artist Foundation of San Antonio (AFSA) and the National Association of Latino Arts & Culture (NALAC) were invited to showcase their works at the festival. Funded by AFSA and NALAC, these Texas artists create new works in performance, visual, music and literary arts. Luminaria provides the production and marketing support to showcase the cutting edge results.

In a continuation of partnerships, Luminaria worked with Contemporary Art Month (a San Antonio stalwart of contemporary visual art held every July) and with the Southern Fried Poetry Slam (a national spoken word contest that was held in our city this past June). From these organizations, artists were invited to bring their award-winning work to the festival. Additional new partnerships with the Mexican Consulate and the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park give tribute to San Antonio's history and cultural relations, with two special artistic contributions.

Yet, it is a combination of the time given by arts experts on the Curatorial Committees and the passion of both an organic regional and national web of artists who apply to be featured artists that we owe our gratitude. From an ever changing and ever growing pool of talent, a wonderfully enigmatic and engaging roster of featured artists is presented.

Finally, what would a celebration of the arts be without another celebration? It is with honor that Luminaria's Contemporary Arts Festival is an official Tricentennial event. Many of the artists who are featured this year do so with works that speak about identity, history, people, land and culture of San Antonio.

We hope your passions are ignited by the programs and events of the Luminaria Contemporary Arts Festival.

In art we unite,

Kathy Armstrong  
Executive Director

Que Florezca la Luz, San Antonio (after a ceremonial song I discovered in the dark)

The light bloomed for three hundred years.  
Que florezca la luz por trescientos años más.

The light bloomed for three hundred years.  
Que florezca la luz por trescientos años más.

Look east,  
Feel the pride of generations, historic homes and hallowed  
‘hoods, families and friends, culture and church, soul and  
song. The east is overflowing with history: St. Paul Square,  
Mount Zion First Baptist, a cluster of cemeteries. Composed  
of close-knit community who keep the dreams alive despite  
the setbacks and in the face of so much redevelopment.  
From the Hays St. Bridge, the east sees everything: city lights,  
starlight, fireworks, the flash of a lighter on a blue ink night.

A pecan tree beside a beauty shop.  
A turtle wandering homewards towards the river.  
A cardinal singing a spiritual at dusk.

May the light bloom,  
The sun rises first on the people of the east.

Turn north,  
From Crossroads to Ingram, from North Star to La Cantera,  
the north is a mecca of malls, as well as jobs, the Medical  
Center and USAA, Fiesta Texas and Sea World. UTSA, a  
campus carved out of limestone. Subdivisions and more  
subdivisions, vivisected by freeways, suburbia intermingled  
with ranchland. The north is about new beginnings, for the  
families who left the inner city not that long ago, to the recent  
arrivals from all parts of the planet who come to San Antonio  
for the very same reasons everyone comes here: to work hard  
and raise children and find a home in a city built atop bones.

A patch of bluebonnets on the side of a congested freeway.  
A white-tailed deer following a path behind an apartment complex.  
A red-tailed hawk flying, stealthily, overhead.

May the light bloom in the north,  
Polaris flickers faithfully through a canopy of oak trees.

Look south,  
It’s the closest we can get to the border, nearest to Mexico,  
four Spanish missions testify to the timeline this Tricentennial  
celebrates. U.S. Air Force bases and facilities, mini military  
cities within the city. Southside community is puro corazón,  
alive with pulgas that buzz with ancient hustle, it bustles with  
fruterías that fizzle the sweet heat of fruit cups and cumbias.  
Three words: Southwest Military Drive. The major artery of  
commerce and cruising, pawn shops and taco spots, legends  
and chisme. Que más quieres, there are even healing hot  
wells and haunted railroad tracks.

A mesquite tree bursting with pods despite the drought.  
A goat romping in a rowdy vecino’s backyard.  
Chicarras composing entire symphonies at twilight.

Que florezca la luz,  
Full moon beaming, the radio on, and the windows down as  
we drive south.

Now turn west,  
Go down Commerce, Zarzamora, Guadalupe, to the botánica,  
the panadería, the taquería, the cantina. Cruise all the way  
down, armed with flowers for familia out at the chain of San  
Fernando cemeteries. See the dried up creeks, spy spray  
painted concrete. The west is rich with shrines to Our Lady of  
Guadalupe and the Little Flower, ripe with the history of los  
Courts, and blessed with a constellation of Chicax cultural  
arts centers. Peep the glorious murals that illustrate the  
beauty of the west as precisely as a tattooed teardrop.

The ancient aloe vera, planted by an abuela, behind a chain  
link fence.  
A pack of scrappy dogs running up, then down the street.  
The rooster crowing boldly in the shade of a pomegranate tree.

Que florezca la luz,  
Praise the pinks, the purples, the golden light of the sun as  
it rests in the west.

Finally, turn now towards center.  
Downtown, el centro, where all the sides convene, legends  
and landmarks, tourists and transportation, arenas and  
every single side that composes the story of the Alamo.  
Pásale, amiga, let’s admire the landscape of the Riverwalk  
and its reaches, let’s walk the luminous Hemisfair  
grounds, maybe travel up the Tower of the Americas, a  
structure that rises like an exclamation point on the city’s  
modern chapter.

The sway of cypress trees, centuries old, from their nooks  
along the riverbank.  
The slow clop of horses, in ribbons and blinders, pulling  
glowing Cinderella carriages.  
A colony of bats under the freeway, flying out like clockwork  
into the electric night.

May the light bloom, San Antonio.  
Que florezca la luz, San Anto.

We see ceremonial firelight,  
we hear ancestral voices echoing back  
ten, eleven, twelve thousand years,  
all leading now,  
all leading here,  
to this mosaic of light once called Yanaguana,  
now named San Antonio,  
a story as amazing as a falling star over Houston Street.

The light bloomed for three hundred years.  
Que florezca la luz por trescientos años más.

The light bloomed for three hundred years.  
Que florezca la luz por trescientos años más.

by Bonnie Ilza Cisneros  
2018 National Association of Latino Arts and Culture  
NFA grant recipient

to San Antonio,  
the city that made me, makes me, gifts me,  
on the occasion of her birthday.





# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## Aaron Prado

San Antonio, Texas

A celebrated musician in San Antonio's fertile jazz scene, Dr. Aaron Prado presents a new large-scale musical composition that tells of a hero's journey. Scored for piano, bass, drums, guitar, trumpet, trombone, 3 saxophones, and 3 cellos, the music will evoke a sense of our place in the universe, the meaning of existence and the stages of life. Prado will perform *The Hero's Journey* in the Mexican Cultural Institute for Luminaria 2018.

This project is funded by the Artist Foundation of San Antonio Paul Elizondo grant for performing arts.

## Agarita

San Antonio, Texas

Agarita is the solo Featured Artist for Luminaria's Closing Performance on Sunday, November 11, 2018 at Mission San José.

Agarita strives to take classical music out of its "ivory tower," making it accessible, fun, and engaging for all. This violin, viola, cello, and piano ensemble will use its instrumentation to create narratives and storylines connected to the city and the Mission's rich histories through the language of music and melody of light. The stimulating journey through time culminates with a live concert titled *300 Years of Luminous Sound* in the Mission's Granary, accompanied by visual projection and manipulation of light throughout the space. This special interpretive arts program celebrating San Antonio's Tricentennial is funded by the Western National Parks Association in partnership with the National Park Service.

## Albert Alvarez

San Antonio, Texas

Albert Alvarez is an artist who works with acrylic paint, pen and ink on paper. Taking stylistic cues from Renaissance masters and psychedelia, Alvarez blends these affinities in stream of consciousness jigsaw puzzle-like paintings questioning the meaning and absurdity of life with unflinching grotesque understanding. For Luminaria 2018, Alvarez will present a psychedelic film titled *Good Job Momma* on a wall of UNAM featuring his newest paintings that focus on themes of solidarity with San Antonians and psycho-spiritual undertones of universal human experience.

## Ann Lewis

Detroit, Michigan

Ann Lewis is a multidisciplinary activist artist using painting, installation, and participatory performance to explore themes related to American identity, power structures, and justice. Since receiving her bachelor's degree in Fine Art from the University of Wisconsin - Madison, her work has been exhibited at the White House and acquired by the New York Historical Society Museum and the US Library of Congress. At Luminaria 2018, Lewis will install a temporary maze-inspired work titled *Juntxs*, highlighting the history and future of Hemisfair.



## Anna De Luna San Antonio, Texas

Anna De Luna is an actor, writer and HIV prevention activist. She received her training at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City, has toured the United States with the National Theater of the Performing Arts and acted/directed for the American Theater Company in Brussels, Belgium. For Luminaria 2018, De Luna will perform *Mojada*, a multimedia theatrical performance based on her mother's experience crossing the Rio Grande River to get to 'el otro lado.' This performance at the Mexican Cultural Institute will include interpretive movement, original video, bilingual storytelling and live guitar performance.

## Arte y Pasión San Antonio, Texas

For Luminaria 2018, Arte y Pasión will generate a symphonic balance between the flamenco, classical, performing and fine arts to elevate the Spanish dance art form while emphasizing harmony in diversity. Their performance is titled *Aguitas*, named after "the rivers and tributaries in our souls." The thread of culture that stretched from the Moorish world to Spain, then to the southwest United States brought the technology of the acequia as well as the introduction of flamenco to this region. Just as the technology of the acequia, flamenco tells the story of division and convergence. Arte y Pasión will perform at the Mexican Cultural Institute.

## Atentamente una fresa Mexico City, Mexico

Atentamente una fresa is an urban artist from Mexico City with a degree in Industrial Design and studies in sculpture, animation, interior design and painting. An advocate of urban art, the artist depicts topics in a surrealistic pop style. She has worked on projects for the Russia World Cup 2018, Carlos Santana, San Antonio Spurs, El Abierto Mexicano de Tennis, Tim Burton and more. Atentamente una fresa will collaborate with Mexican urban artist UNEG to create a new temporary mural for Luminaria 2018.

This project is funded by the Mexican Consulate.

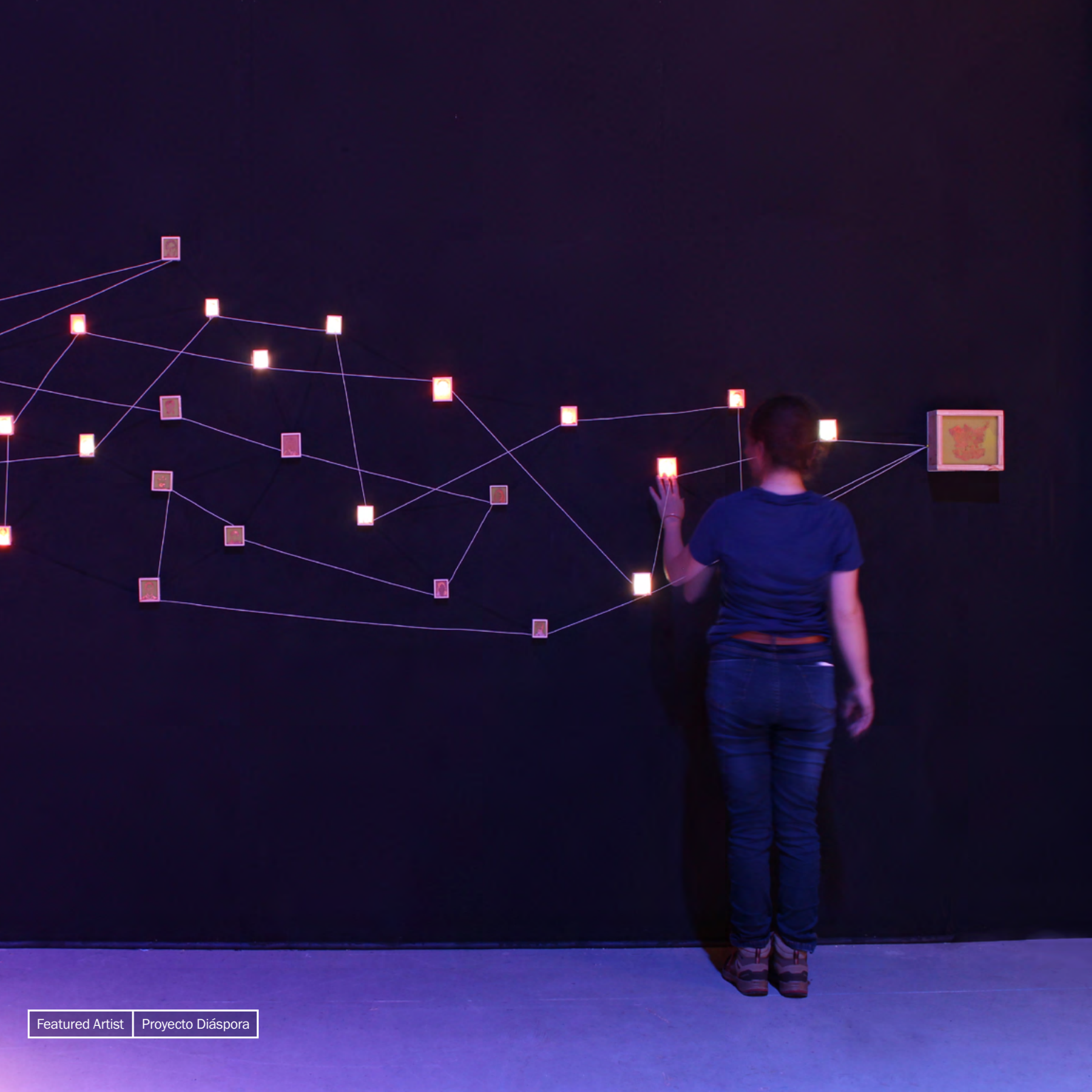
## Azul San Antonio, Texas

Originally from Mexico City, Azul works to conserve and develop the folk music that she was first introduced to as a child. Azul rejoices in her Latina roots and gives life to the narratives of Latin American history by highlighting the many cultural influences and interconnections between the Americas, Africa, and Spain. Beginning her musical trajectory at an early age, Azul witnessed her parents' nightly rituals of harmonizing with each other. Azul will perform at the Yanaguana Stage at Luminaria 2018.





# LUMINARIA ARTISTS



## Buttercup

San Antonio, Texas

Buttercup is a life-affirming art-rock band that has written hundreds of original songs that NPR calls “jangly art rock for the left side of the brain.” Since 2004, the band has released 8 full length recordings and a DVD documentary. Their special blend of creative performances that incorporate visual art, performance and installation has led their fan base, the “Buttercult”, to expect the unexpected. For Luminaria 2018, Buttercup will present a music performance with projections, lights and confetti on the Main Stage.

## Cadillac Muzik

San Antonio, Texas

Cadillac Muzik is an Alternative Hip Hop/Soul/Funk/Pop group that has opened up for acts such as The Temptations, Cypress Hill, and more. The term “Cadillac Muzik” was inspired by one of their main influences, and one of Hip Hop’s greatest legendary duos Outkast, with their album *Southernplayalisticadillacmuzik*. The band explains that riding in an old school Cadillac is like an escape from a negative environment to a galaxy of wisdom and creativity. Cadillac Muzik will perform on the Main Stage for Luminaria 2018.

## Cristina Goletti, Jadd Tank and Hideaki Tsutsui

El Paso, Texas

For Luminaria 2018, Jadd Tank will perform *Short of Desire and Other American Stories* by Cristina Goletti, an investigation of a queer place and time where plastic plants will grow side by side to gnomes, broken fridges, and mid-century furniture, offering a futuristic yet nostalgic look at what makes a house a home, a relationship a love story and failure an acceptable possibility. This performance will feature light design by Hideaki Tsutsui and music by Rossini, Xavier Gilmore and Mina. They will perform at the Mexican Cultural Institute.

## David Alcantar

San Antonio, Texas

A native Texan, David Alcantar received his BFA from the University of Texas Austin and his MFA from the University of Colorado - Boulder. Alcantar’s recent work blurs the line between traditional fine art and tattoos. For Luminaria 2018, Alcantar will present *Skin in the Game: Act 3*, featuring the work of San Antonio artists Joe Harjo, Ethel Shipton, Sarah Fox, Luis Valderaz and David Alcantar in the historic Schultz house and on live models.

Alcantar received a CAMMIE award for his work exhibited during Contemporary Art Month 2018.



# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## Deer Vibes

San Antonio, Texas

Deer Vibes is an indie rock band formed in 2009 by front man and composer, Michael "Mikey Vibe" Carrillo. The group incorporates grand instrumental orchestrations while maintaining the use of catchy pop melodies and lyrics, aiming to transcend the listener through the organized, yet sometimes chaotic sound, into the depths of emotion attached to each song. In 2015, Deer Vibes was voted "Best Indie Rock Band" by the San Antonio Current's Music Awards. Deer Vibes has since performed as an official SXSW artist in Austin at St. David's Historic Sanctuary. Deer Vibes will perform on the Main Stage for Luminaria 2018.

## Fernando Andrade

San Antonio, Texas

*Paredes*, a new body of work by Fernando Andrade, consists of large-scale drawings using graphite and watercolor techniques on paper. *Paredes* is an ongoing series comprised of life-size figure drawings in various poses, exploring tension and discomfort. The project challenges the viewer to think about self-constructed walls and consider their positive and negative impact. For Luminaria 2018, Andrade will present a time-lapse video of the process of creating these large-scale drawings.

This project is funded by NALAC.

## Hilal "Lalo" Hibri

San Antonio, Texas

Hilal "Lalo" Hibri is a multi-media sculptor motivated to create art that is not only beautiful, but stimulates reflection on the intersection of nature, technology and the human experience. After earning his B.S. degree at Wake Forest University, he apprenticed under Portland-based glass pioneer Linda Ethier. Soon after, he realized that he wanted to use his passion for nature and geometry to create beauty, rather than pursue the natural sciences. For Luminaria 2018, Hibri will present a new temporary light installation in Yanaguana Garden titled *Fractal Forest*.

## Jay Wile

Converse, Texas

Jay Wile is a 24-year-old artist and producer who creates a unique blend of R&B, Soul and Hip Hop with influences from Stevie Wonder, Frank Ocean and Kanye West. In 2017, he released his debut EP, *Blue Patio*, with standout tracks, *Honest and Numb*, gaining 140,000 streams in seven months. Wile's performance includes both live instrumentation and loops that are created live using a drum machine. Jay Wile will perform on the Yanaguana Stage for Luminaria 2018.







# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## Jeff Zischke

Scottsdale, Arizona

Jeff Zischke is an artist and designer exploring sculpture, public art, mixed media and urban transformation. His permanent and temporary works draw inspiration from organic shapes and modern technology. His work is collected globally in collections including: The Guggenheim Museum, Spain, The City of Nicosia, Cyprus; Eco-Musee, Puget-Rostang, France and more. Zischke will present *Gemtones* at Luminaria 2018, an immersive, site-specific light installation that will illuminate the architecture of the Hemisfair district.

## Jesse J. Ruiz

San Antonio, Texas

Jesse J. Ruiz is a bi-racial lesbian artist who paints, draws and makes videos. For Luminaria 2018, Ruiz will present a short animation called *Color Coded*, which is adapted from a comic she created, *Mixed*. *Color Coded* explores the cultural significance of colors and was inspired by a Gloria E. Anzaldúa piece. *Mixed* is a semi-autobiographical and fictional comic book about the complexities of bicultural, biracial, womxn and queer identity in the Latinx and Asian-American communities.

This project is funded by NALAC.

## Joel Adrian

San Antonio, Texas

Joel Adrian stamps his music with a unique blend of jazz, blues and soul beyond his years. With an appreciation for all music genres, he cites John Mayer, Citizen Cope and Marvin Gaye as musical inspirations. Playing several instruments since the age of 9 and performing only the last three years, he is a young musical talent working his way on to the local scene. He released his first self-produced 3 song EP in August 2018 which has been well received and is currently available on iTunes, Apple Music, Spotify and other major media outlets. Adrian will perform on the Yanaguana Stage.

## Jose Villalobos

San Antonio, Texas

Jose Villalobos was born and raised in El Paso, Texas to a traditional conservative family. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Villalobos juxtaposes distress with comfort deriving from patriarchal and religious social structures which marginalize gay identity. He manipulates material through the context of self-identity as he examines gender roles within family culture. For Luminaria 2018, Villalobos will present a new performance and installation piece titled *La Carga de la Tradición*.



# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## Juan Tejeda

San Antonio, Texas

*Raiz XicanX* is a musical CD project that will include original music written by Juan Tejeda and traditional Conjunto/Tejano covers with accordion and bajo sexto. The CD will feature musical styles ranging from Indigenous cantos and corridos to blues and jazz. *Raiz XicanX* illustrates the diversity and synthesis that is Xicanx/Conjunto/Tejano music with roots firmly rooted in American musical traditions. Tejeda will perform on the UNAM Stage at Luminaria 2018.

This project is funded by NALAC.

## Justin Eastman

Lakewood, Colorado

Justin Eastman is formally educated as a computer scientist and engineer and has been a software engineer for over a decade. While his formal education lies in the sciences, his passion is in the arts. He has brought electronics and software together to create visual art since 2010. The result of this combination creates art from light and motion that is visually organic and ever changing. For Luminaria 2018, Eastman will present *de Dar a Luz*, an enveloping light dome that boasts a symphony of colorful patterns and lights.

## Justin Parr and Adam Smolensky

San Antonio, Texas

Justin Parr is the caretaker and artist-in-residence of the Hot Wells Hotel ruins, as well as the founder & owner of FL!GHT Gallery. Adam Smolensky is a full-time glass artist exploring and pushing the boundaries of glass as a medium. For Luminaria 2018, Parr and Smolensky will present a tribute to San Antonio's Tricentennial year with *Birthday Candles*, a colorful installation comprised of 300 glowing glass tubes in the San Antonio River at the Convention Center.

## Kat Cadena, Malia Gomez and Mary Jendrzey

San Antonio, Texas

Kat Cadena, Malia Gomez and Mary Jendrzey are visual artists combining their individual artistic explorations of light, lingering human presence and the loss or erasure of identity and memory to create an interactive light installation in and around the historic homes of HemisFair for Luminaria 2018. The installation, titled *Residents of Yore*, will feature illuminated lantern-people, representative of the people who lived in the neighborhood that was demolished in order to pave the way for HemisFair '68.







# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## Laura D. Schultz San Antonio, Texas

Laura D. Schultz works with cut paper to create delicate, architectural-scale installations as well as more intimate pieces. Her works exude both power and fragility, a contradiction she finds intriguing and actively cultivates. Recently, she has taken inspiration from the intersection of science and art, particularly sea life. Schultz earned an MFA in fiber and mixed media from John F. Kennedy University, and a BFA from the University of Texas at Austin. For Luminaria 2018, Schultz will present a series of large illuminated papercut artworks titled *Sea Glow* that will cast intricate shadows across the Alamo Street entrance.

## Matthew Steinke Austin, Texas

Matthew Steinke is an artist and composer working with robotics, sculpture, and animation. His sonic narratives take the form of audio recordings, videos, performances, and installations. Steinke's work is propelled by the idea of "Métamatic" souls generated by machines through their autonomy and complexity. He explores AI technology to synthesize a range of behaviors, mental states, and emotional experiences. Steinke holds an MFA in Art and Technology Studies from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. For Luminaria 2018, Steinke will present an interactive multimedia installation in UNAM titled *Deliriums*.

## Mr. Composition San Antonio, Texas

Mr. Composition is a writer, musician and documentarian. In 2014, he made a buzz with his album *Graffiti the Mind*, on which he worked with London animator Maxim Northover to deliver a stunning music video for his song *Pandora's Jukebox*. He has opened for acts like Dead Prez, Blu, Master Killah of Wu-Tang and more. Mr. Composition will present a poetic and musical performance celebrating San Antonio's past and hopes for the future on the UNAM Stage at Luminaria 2018.

## Nan Cuba San Antonio, Texas

Nan Cuba will give a reading from her new novel, *He Didn't Kill Nobody but Mom*, a tragicomic novel about the equivocal nature of justice and the inability to predict the damaging effects of one's actions. At the center is a criminal investigation, headed by the Texas Rangers and based in Bandera, Texas. Law enforcement personnel come from across the country to interview a suspected serial killer. However, this is not a simple crime story. The focus is on those surrounding the suspect, particularly a novice journalist. Cuba will perform on the UNAM Stage at Luminaria 2018.

This novel is funded by The Artist Foundation of San Antonio Department of Arts & Culture Award for Literary Arts.



# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## Nancy Wood

San Antonio, Texas

Nancy Wood is a classically trained artist whose work is a synthesis of tradition and technology that embodies the evolving nature of image making. Nancy received her B.A. and M.F.A. in Studio Art from the University of California, Los Angeles and a Ph.D. in Educational Technology from Texas A&M University, College Station. Her current work is focused on the mystical beauty of the natural landscape. For Luminaria 2018, Wood will present a new body of animated photography titled *300 San Antonio Flowers*.

## Nathan Felix

San Antonio, Texas

Self-taught Mexican-American composer, Nathan Felix, will present his new work, *The War Bride* in which the audience experiences an immersive “live” opera through headphones in an interactive space with visuals by Chris Sauter.” Listeners are encouraged to explore and follow the singers, actors and musicians as they bring life to Felix’s narrative that explores the river as a metaphor for home, as well as a perceived border.

*The War Bride* is funded by the Artist Foundation of San Antonio Tobin Prize for Artistic Excellence People’s Choice Award.

## Nina Díaz

Los Angeles, California

The debut solo album from Nina Díaz, *The Beat Is Dead* (Cosmica Records)—an expansive body of work that sonically references musicals, alt-metal, indie pop, new wave—powerfully chronicles her journey itself. “This album is the story of my addiction and my sobriety,” she says. Hailed by NPR as “one of the two or three most exciting, scary-good vocalists in rock today,” Díaz’s debut solo album, *The Beat Is Dead* has received raves from everyone from NPR to Elle to the Austin Chronicle. Nina Díaz will perform on the Main Stage at Luminaria 2018.

## Patty Ortiz

San Antonio, Texas

Patty Ortiz received a BFA from the University of Texas and an MFA from the University of Texas at San Antonio. For Luminaria 2018, Ortiz will present *WWKY: I AM HERE*, the sixth installment of the *Work Won’t Kill You* series, which addresses the present painful quandary of involuntary childhood immigrants who thought they had qualified for a path to citizenship through Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). This interactive installation will be located near the San Antonio River.





# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## Proyecto Diáspora

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Proyecto Diáspora is an artistic duo project by Constanza Casamadrid (Mexico) and Juan Camilo León (Colombia). It works with the concepts of memory and human migration using technology as a medium to preserve the human element (voices, faces, memories, etc.) behind migration statistics. Both artists met while studying their master in Electronic Arts at UNTREF, Buenos Aires. Their work has been exhibited in Mexico, Colombia, Argentina and the Netherlands. For Luminaria 2018, they will present an installation celebrating the city's Tricentennial titled *Near Strangers San Antonio 300*.

## Public Art San Antonio (PASA)

San Antonio, Texas

Public Art San Antonio will present ART//craft, a traveling gallery and cultural space that delivers arts and culture to San Antonio communities. Sam Houston High School students in building technology classes designed and built the mobile gallery from a discarded shipping container. Eastside artist SCOTCH! created the exterior mural. ART//craft made its debut at Luminaria 2017 and will host a selection from Common Currents, curated by Monica del Arenal, for Luminaria 2018.

## RADI

East Orange, New Jersey

Born and raised in Northern New Jersey, RADI is a spoken word artist who has been writing poetry since she was in the 3rd grade and is now the 3rd top Female Slam Poet in the world! She currently reigns as the Poetry Slam Champion of two national teams; *New Jeru Slam* and *The Nuyorican Poets Cafe*. During her last visit to San Antonio, she and her team *New Jeru Slam* left in the top rank for Individual Slam Finals and Team Slam Finals at the second largest poetry slam competition in America, Southern Fried Poetry Slam 2018. RADI will perform on the UNAM Stage for Luminaria 2018.

## Ramin Samandari

San Antonio, Texas

Iranian-born photographer, Ramin Samandari, arrived in Odessa, Texas in 1978 at age 17, sent there by his parents in the midst of the Iranian revolution. At the time, he thought he might return to his homeland, but then the Iran-Iraq War broke out, so he stayed and became a U.S. citizen. Samandari's recent portraiture has garnered attention by highlighting San Antonio's racially and ethnically diverse community. Samandari will exhibit 300 images from *Huddled Masses, Who We Are* at Luminaria 2018.



# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## **Remedios Sagrados, curated by Suzy González** San Antonio, Texas

Funded by NALAC, artist/curator Suzy González and author/scholar Luz Calvo curated *Comida es Medicina* at Galería de la Raza in San Francisco. This exhibit was based on the ideas put forth in the book *Decolonize Your Diet: Mexican-American Plant-Based Recipes on Health and Healing*. Luminaria 2018 presents a complementary version of this exhibit, *Remedios Sagrados*, curated by Suzy González. Work will focus on concepts of ancestral knowledge in relation to food, healing, spirituality, and the land. As the city of San Antonio celebrates 300 post-colonial years, these artists reclaim indigenous wisdom while recognizing the complexity of identity. Exhibiting artists are Santa Barraza, Veronica Castillo, Jenelle Esparza, Audrya Flores, Naxieli Gomez, Arlene Mejorado, Mary Agnes Rodriguez, Alán Serna, Debora Kuetzpal Vasquez and Liliana Wilson.

## **Riley Robinson** San Antonio, Texas

Riley Robinson received an MFA in sculpture from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 1994 and is the Director of Artpace. For Luminaria 2018, Robinson will present *Voice Over*, an interactive installation made of two engineered sound mirrors installed on either side of the San Antonio River. *Voice Over* will present material and conceptual challenges that respond to our cultural and political climate. After Luminaria, the work will be installed across the Rio Grande at the Texas/Mexico border.

This project is funded by the Artist Foundation of San Antonio Rick Liberto grant for visual arts.

## **Roberto Celis** Allendale, New Jersey

Roberto Celis received a BFA in Crafts + Material Studies and a BS in Psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University, and he received an MFA from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Celis has shown his work nationally and internationally and has completed artist residencies in Germany and Argentina. Now, Celis teaches and has an active studio presence in New Jersey. For Luminaria 2018, Celis will present a multimedia performance titled *Perpetual Shadows* and an installation titled *Scale, Dig, Breached* using tesla coils and fluorescent lights.

## **Rosa Nussbaum, Kevin Choi, Trent Tunks** and MaKayla Rutt Austin, Texas

This collaborative team works at the intersection of visual art, design and architecture, marrying concerns of place, habitation and the poetic and historical resonances of site. Nussbaum, Choi, Tunks and Rutt will present *The Ghost of Germantown* at Luminaria 2018, an architectural traveling sculpture honoring and studying the homes that stood in Germantown before they were demolished for HemisFair '68.







# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## SAFILM

San Antonio, Texas

The mission of SAFILM (San Antonio Film Festival), a nonprofit 501(c)3, is to serve as an accessible and inclusive platform for filmmakers and provide cinematic culture to a diverse audience. SAFILM showcases films from around the world while nurturing, fostering, and developing filmmakers of all ages. For Luminaria 2018, SAFILM will screen several short films along the San Antonio River by directors: Janelle VanderKelen, Natalie MacMahon, Bradley Rappa, Chan'Cellore Makanjuola, David L. Sims, Lorette Bayle, Patricia G. Fernandez and Matt Buikema.

## SAY Sí

San Antonio, Texas

For Luminaria 2018, SAY Sí artists will present an exhibit titled *Omitted Histories*, an investigation of eradicated local narratives through extensive research using oral histories, accounts from historians, local mythology and archival materials. In their work, students acknowledge why these stories have been neglected and the mechanisms that keep them hidden. While the exhibit will mainly be focused on 2D and 3D work, the artists will showcase interpretive elements that illustrate their commitment to inclusion, equity and social justice, all key components of their core values.

## Susi Lopera

San Antonio, Texas

Born in Colombia, Susi Lopera is a multimedia artist who creates narrative sculptures and videos. She earned a BFA at the University of Southern California and is currently working towards an MFA from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Lopera strives to achieve the poetic characteristics of open-endedness, ambiguity, and unusual perspective in her work. She explores and reveals, through stories, the world's myriad complexities and marvels. For Luminaria 2018, Lopera will present a new stop-motion animation titled *San Antonio's Siamese Twins*, based on two interesting and famous individuals in San Antonio's history.

## The AM Project

San Antonio, Texas

The AM Project is a 501(c)(3) Digital Arts and Music program whose mission is to provide an experience for young people to express creativity, gain confidence and passion, and view the world in a different way. For Luminaria 2018, The AM Project will create an interactive music and light experience called *I AM the Show*. Some of San Antonio's top and amateur DJs will perform, accompanied by an audience controlled light show.



# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## The Hemisfair Plaza Poets

### San Antonio, Texas

The Hemisfair Plaza Poets, led by Luminaria 2016 Featured Artist DaReil Pittman aka *Da Green Lantern*, will perform spoken word poetry about San Antonio's iconic landmarks, citing memories San Antonians have attached to the landmarks. The Hemisfair Plaza Poets include Glo Armmer, Chris Billings, Eddie Vega, Jose Arredondo, Sarah Timmons and DaReil Pittman. They will perform on the UNAM Stage at Luminaria 2018.

## UNEG

### Mexico City, Mexico

UNEG is a graffiti artist and graphic designer from Mexico City. He studied at Escuela Nacional de Artes Plásticas from UNAM. He's characterized both by his colorful style and creation of short stories with a sharp sense of humor through the use of fantastical characters, personal experience and the subliminal. UNEG has worked on several projects for: Formula 1, NFL, NBA, Disney Pixar, Tim Burton, and more. UNEG will collaborate with Mexican artist Atentamente una fresa to create a new temporary mural for Luminaria 2018.

This project is funded by the Mexican Consulate.

## Verena Gaudy and Martín C. Rodríguez

### San Antonio, Texas

Martín C. Rodríguez is a multidisciplinary new media artist who earned both his BFA & MFA from The University of Texas at San Antonio. Born in Austria, Verena Gaudy is a ceramic artist who achieved her BA in ceramics at the University of Wales Institute Cardiff and her MFA at The University of Texas at San Antonio. Gaudy and Rodríguez have collaborated in performance art for the past two years. For Luminaria 2018, the duo will perform an illuminated performance called *Avatar Walkabout*.

## Volcán

### San Antonio, Texas

Volcán is a 13-piece south Texas based Latin indie orchestra formed in 2014. The group boasts a full rhythm section (comprised of drums, congas, bongos, timbales, piano and bass), a full brass section (comprised of trumpet, trombone, alto saxophone, and mellophone), a state champion accordionist, a prolific lead guitarist, and best-in-class vocals. Volcán is all original, opting never to use covers despite their dedication to bring traditional cultural sounds to a new generation of Latinos. Volcán will perform on the Main Stage at Luminaria 2018.





# LUMINARIA ARTISTS

## Word Salsa

San Antonio, Texas

Word Salsa is an Official San Antonio Tricentennial Art kiosk traveling around town for the duration of the celebration year. It was created by Rick Stemm and Stevan Zivadinovic, with dozens of San Antonio poets throughout the ages contributing their bodies of work. In all, the Word Salsa robot has been fed 110,000 words of poetry and has learned to compose sentences similar to those of real San Antonio poets. When prompted, it produces a brand new, unique poem, reads it out loud and prints it on a numbered card. Get your poem with the press of a button at Luminaria 2018!

## Xavier Gilmore

San Antonio, Texas

Xavier Gilmore holds a BFA in Painting and Drawing from the University of Texas at San Antonio. As an interdisciplinary artist, his work largely focuses on the exploration of topical and topographical histories of identity, culture and spaces. Gilmore has exhibited internationally in Mexico and regionally at Artpace, The McNay, Bluestar Contemporary, and more. For Luminaria 2018, Gilmore will present a new performance titled *Reprise*, which will pay tribute to San Antonio's celebrated historic percussionist, Bongo Joe.

## Xelena González

San Antonio, Texas

Xelena González is the author of *All Around Us* (Cinco Puntos Press, 2017), a picture book illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia that deftly depicts her Mestiza culture and roots on the Westside of San Antonio. González leads various regional workshops in dance, creative writing, drama, and other artforms. For Luminaria 2018, González will present her book *All Around Us* in an interactive, kid-friendly digital format.

## Yuliya Lanina

Austin, Texas

Yuliya Lanina is a Russian-born American multimedia artist. Her projects exist at the intersection of visual and performing arts, technological innovation, and social issues like gender perception, sexual objectification and violence, loss, and motherhood. Lanina holds an MFA in Combined Media from Hunter College, CUNY. For Luminaria 2018, Lanina will perform in synchronization with her original animation, accompanied by Russell Pinkston's original music composition, exploring the symbiotic relationship that can exist between the artist and her work. Lanina will perform *Within, Above and Beyond* at the Mexican Cultural Institute.



SATURDAY, NOV 10 AT HEMISFAIR  
CONTEMPORARY ARTS FESTIVAL | 7 PM - 12 AM | FREE

Join Luminaria 2018 Featured Artists from San Antonio and the world. The arts come alive with new works in performance, music, literature, dance, visual arts and much more. Enjoy special Tricentennial contributions from Featured Artists exploring the identity, history, people, land and culture of San Antonio.

Audience Interaction

Participate in a family-friendly Art Quest with Spare pARTS educators. Light Up the Night with your own creative & bright outfit. Become part of the festival with Improv Everywhere MP3 Experiment.

Arts Organizations

Learn about other arts opportunities in San Antonio from local art galleries, theatres, schools and community organizations.

Food & Drink

Partake in culinary options from CommonWealth Coffeehouse & Bakery, Paletería San Antonio, Dough Pizzeria, Con Safos and more festival favorites.

SUNDAY, NOV 11 AT HEMISFAIR  
COMMUNITY ARTS DAY | 11 AM - 3 PM

Artist Market (11:00am - 3:00pm)

Luminaria’s Featured Artists will have CDs, artworks, and more available for purchase. Bring a piece of Luminaria home with you.

Artist Brunches (11:00am - 12:30pm) / \$35

Share a meal and conversation with Luminaria’s Featured Artists & curators.

- **Migration:** Artists Patty Ortiz, Proyecto Diáspora, Ramin Samandari and curator Guillermina Zabala share stories of migration through their artistic practice.
- **Legacy:** Musicians Juan Tejeda and Jaime Umberto Mejia (Volcán) join curator Adriana Flores in a conversation about honoring the legacy of diverse musical traditions.
- **True Stories:** Author Nan Cuba and Artists Susi Lopera and Xavier Gilmore join curator Mark McCain in a conversation about challenges that come with working with local narratives.

Artist-Run Workshops and Demonstrations  
(12:00pm - 3:00pm) / \$5 suggested donation

- **DJing and Hip Hop Dance Workshop:** The AM Project brings the beat with their mobile DJ experience!
- **Flamenco Dance Workshop:** Arte y Pasión demonstrates classic flamenco movements, accompanied by live guitar.
- **Paper-cutting Workshop:** Laura D. Schultz shares techniques for creating images using cut paper, inspired by sea life.
- **Luminaria Workshop:** Drop in and create your own paper lantern.
- **Glass-Blowing Demonstration:** Artists Justin Parr and Adam Smolensky demonstrate glass “lace-work.”

SUNDAY, NOV 11 AT MISSION SAN JOSÉ  
CLOSING EVENT | 4 PM - 7 PM | PERFORMANCE AT 5 PM

Enjoy a special Tricentennial program at the Mission San José, a designated World Heritage Organization site and part of San Antonio Missions National Historical Park. Live performance by featured classical quartet Agarita includes music from the past 300 years and blends the cultures of San Antonio with special visual effects.

TRANSPORTATION

Lyft offers special 25% discount with “LUMINARIA18” code and VIA Metropolitan Service extends the Culture Route and hours.

ARTISTS

Aaron Prado | Agarita | Albert Alvarez | Ann Lewis  
Anna De Luna | Arte y Pasión | Atentamente una Fresa  
Azul | Buttercup | Cadillac Muzik | Cristina Goletti, Jadd Tank  
and Hideaki Tsutsui | David Alcantar | Deer Vibes  
Fernando Andrade | Hilal “Lalo” Hibri | Jay Wile  
Jeff Zischke | Jesse J. Ruiz | Joel Adrian | Jose Villalobos  
Juan Tejeda | Justin Eastman | Justin Parr and Adam Smolensky  
Kat Cadena, Malia Gomez and Mary Jendrzey | Laura D. Schultz  
Matthew Steinke | Mr. Composition | Nan Cuba | Nancy Wood  
Nathan Felix | Nina Diaz | Patty Ortiz | Proyecto Diáspora  
Public Art San Antonio | RADI | Ramin Samandari  
Riley Robinson | Roberto Celis | Rosa Nussbaum, Kevin Choi,  
MaKayla Rutt and Trent Tunks | SAFILM | SAY Sí | Susi Lopera  
Suzy González | The AM Project | The Hemisfair Plaza Poets  
UNEG | Verena Gaudy and Martín C. Rodríguez | Volcán  
Word Salsa | Xavier Gilmore | Xelena González | Yuliya Lanina

PARTNER LOCATIONS

Hemisfair | Magik Theatre | Mexican Cultural Institute (MCI)  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) | San Antonio  
Convention Center | Mission San José San Antonio Missions National  
Historical Park

ARTISTIC PARTNERS

National Association of Latino Arts and Culture (NALAC)  
Artist Foundation of San Antonio | Contemporary Art Month  
Southern Fried Poetry Slam | Mexican Consulate





# LUMINARIA

2018

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