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Pablo Helguera and Laura Aguilar to give talks

Artists visit the Alameda in conjunction with exhibitions *Escultura Social* and *Laura Aguilar: Life, the Body, Her Perspective*

Pablo Helguera: *October 10, 8pm*

Laura Aguilar: *October 16, 7pm*

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, October 1, 2008 — The Museo Alameda in affiliation with the Smithsonian Institution announces two lectures by artists currently exhibiting at the museum. Pablo Helguera and Laura Aguilar will deliver talks about their work and process on October 10 and October 16, respectively.

Pablo Helguera is a Mexico City native and multi-disciplinary artist currently living and working in New York. He is known for utilizing non-traditional formats ranging from experimental symposiums, phonograph recordings, exhibition audio-guides, publications or nomadic museums. Helguera's work in *Escultura Social*, *The School of Panamerican Unrest*, is a project that seeks to generate connections between the different regions of the Americas through discussions, performances, screenings, and short-term and long-term collaborations between organizations and individuals. Its main component is a nomadic think-tank that will cross the hemisphere from Anchorage, Alaska, to Ushuaia, Argentina. The project offers alternative ways to understand the history, ideology, and lines of thought that have significantly impacted political, social and cultural events in the Americas.

As an obese, dyslexic, Latina, lesbian photographer, Laura Aguilar has spent over twenty years challenging popular conceptions and questioning societal norms of what is considered beautiful. Based in the San Gabriel Valley outside of Los Angeles, she uses her work—which consists of photographic series, video pieces, and installations—to depict those who do not fit the norm dictated by society. She portrays friends, acquaintances, and herself, minorities in society with respect to either race, gender, or sexuality. Yet unlike other photographers, Aguilar does not emphasize any notion of “freakishness,” instead emphasizing a more aesthetically classical approach. She presents the body as landscape, as

sculpture. Her body of work is one that seeks to embody not the experiences of certain social groups—Chicana, black, lesbian—but rather the experiences of individuals, especially the experience of the artist herself.

MISSION

To tell the story of the Latino experience in America through art, history, and culture.

SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP

The Museo Alameda is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Exhibitions and programs receive major support from Ford Motor Company. The museum receives partial operating support from the City of San Antonio and the Office of Cultural Affairs.

LOCATION

The Museo Alameda is located in downtown San Antonio in historic Market Square on the corner of Santa Rosa and Commerce at 101 South Santa Rosa.

HOURS AND ADMISSION

The Museo Alameda is open Tuesday through Sunday 10:00 – 6:00, Wednesday until 8:00, and Sunday, noon to 6:00. The museum is closed Mondays and holidays. Suggested admission donations are \$4.00 for Adults; \$3.00 for Seniors, Educators, and Military; and \$2.00 for Students and Children.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT [HTTP://WWW.THEALAMEDA.ORG](http://www.thealameda.org)