

NARSISO MARTINEZ  
PORTFOLIO



**CJG** CHARLIE JAMES GALLERY  
CHINATOWN, LOS ANGELES

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# NARSISO MARTINEZ

## PORTFOLIO

Narsiso Martinez's paintings and mixed media installations include individual portraits and multi-figure compositions of farm laborers set against the agricultural landscapes and brand designs of grocery store produce boxes. Drawn from his own experience as a farm worker, Martinez's work focuses on the people performing the labors necessary to fill produce sections and restaurant kitchens around the country. Martinez's portraits of farm workers are executed on discarded produce boxes collected from grocery stores. In a style informed by inter-war Social Realism and European Realism, Martinez's work makes visible the difficult labor and onerous working conditions of the American farm worker.

**Narsiso Martinez** (b. 1977, Oaxaca, Mexico) migrated to the United States when he was 20 years old. He attended Evans Community Adult School and completed high school in 2006 at the age of 29. To finance his education, Martinez worked seasonally in the apple orchards of Eastern Washington for nine years. He earned an Associate of Arts degree in 2009 from Los Angeles City College. In the fall of 2012 Narsiso earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from California State University Long Beach. In the spring of 2018 he received a Master of Fine Arts degree in drawing and painting from California State University Long Beach, and was awarded the prestigious Dedalus Foundation MFA Fellowship in Painting and Sculpture. His work has been exhibited both locally and internationally. Narsiso's work is in the permanent collections of the LBMA, the Crocker Art Museum, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum at the University of Oregon, the Santa Barbara Museum, and others. Martinez lives and works in Long Beach, CA.

# NARSISO MARTINEZ PORTFOLIO



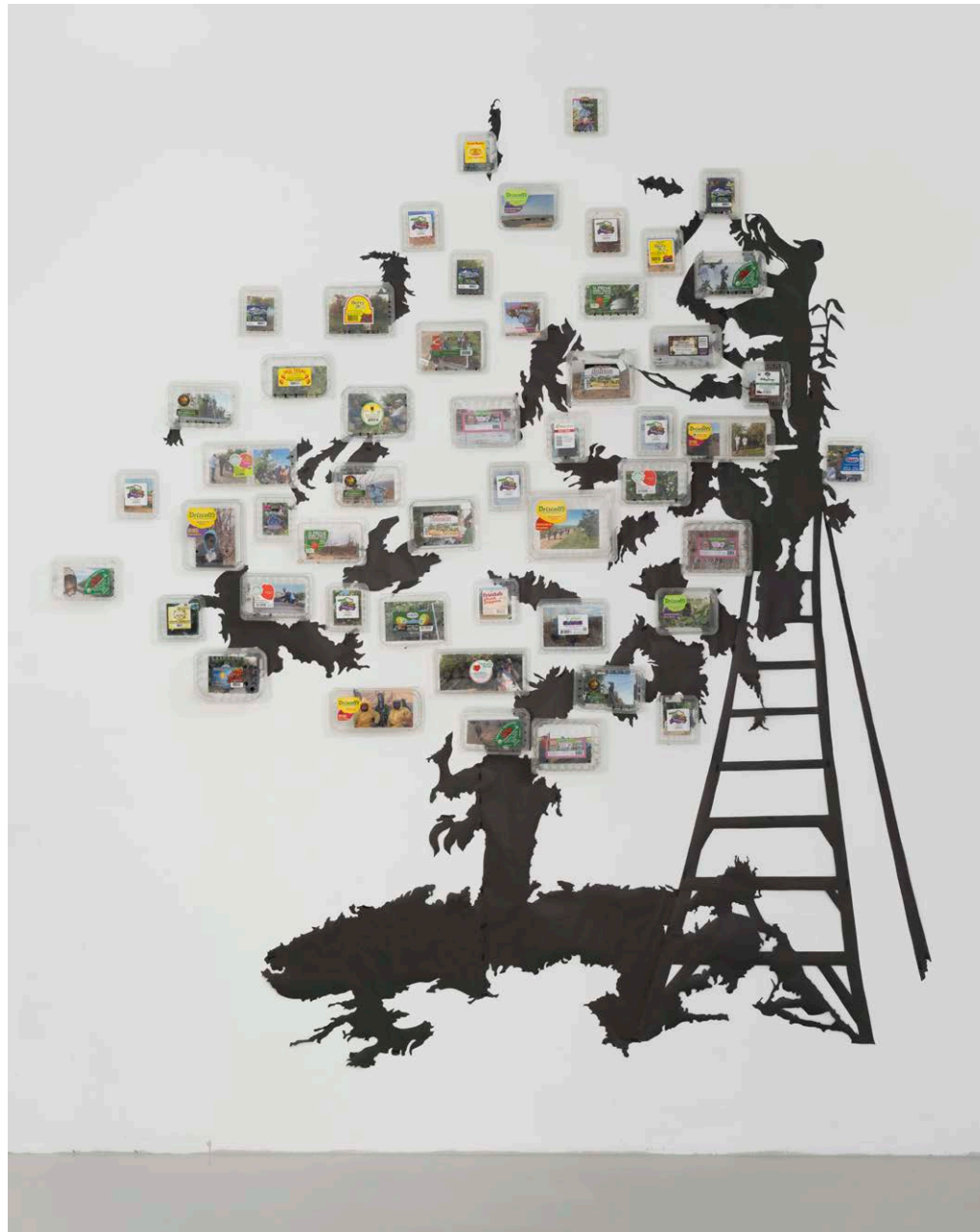
Pacific Gold  
Ink, Gouache, charcoal, collage,  
acrylics, and small paintings  
on produce boxes  
82 x 40 x 48 inches  
2021

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Pacific Gold  
Ink, Gouache, charcoal, collage,  
acrylics, and small paintings on  
produce boxes  
82 x 40 x 48 inches  
2021

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Tree of Life  
Installation  
Mixed Media  
100 x 95 inches  
2021

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Tree of Life  
Installation  
Details

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Banana Man  
Ink, Gouache, charcoal,  
and collage on produce  
cardboard boxes  
93.5 x 72 inches  
2021

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Tender Leaves  
Ink, charcoal, and  
gold leaf on produce  
cardboard box  
52.50 x 62.50 Inches  
2021



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USA Product  
Gouache, Charcoal,  
Collage, and Matte  
Medium on Cherry Box  
35 x 28.25 Inches  
2021

Collection of the  
University of Arizona  
Museum of Art

# NARSISO MARTINEZ PORTFOLIO



To a Brighter Future  
Ink, gouache, charcoal,  
and gold leaf on produce  
cardboard box  
24 x 30.75 inches  
2021

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Golden Crop  
Ink, gouache, charcoal,  
and acrylics on juice  
carton  
11.75 x 15.25 inches  
2021

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Untitled Two  
(Collaboration with Gerardo Monterrubio)  
Sgraffito and Underglazes on Ceramic Vase  
Approx. 20 x 12 x 15 Inches  
2018

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Royal-ty  
Ink, Gouache, Charcoal,  
Gold Leaf and Matte Gel  
on Produce Cardboard  
77 x 108 Inches  
2021

Collection of Amon  
Carter Museum of  
American Art, Fort  
Worth TX

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Always Fresh  
Ink, Charcoal, Gouache, Gold Leaf,  
Collage and Multiple Small Oil on Canvas  
Paintings on Reclaimed Produce Boxes  
92.5 x 278 Inches  
2018

Collection of Compound, Long Beach CA

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Philosophy in the Fields  
Ceramic tiles with glazes  
48 x 84 inches  
2020

Collection of The Lucas Museum  
of Narrative Art, Los Angeles

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Super Fresh  
Ink, Gouache, Charcoal, and Collage  
on Found Produce Boxes  
84 x 133 inches  
2020



# NARSISO MARTINEZ PORTFOLIO



Magic Harvest  
Ink, Charcoal, and  
Gouache on Found Produce  
Boxes  
71 x 23.5 x 16 inches  
2019

Collection of Compound,  
Long Beach CA

# NARSISO MARTINEZ PORTFOLIO



The Weed Sprayer  
Ink, Gouache, and Charcoal  
on found produce box  
82 x 56 inches  
2020

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Green Organic  
Ink, gouache, charcoal,  
and collage on found  
produce box  
34 x 30 inches  
2020

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Artisan Organics  
Ink, Gouache, Charcoal,  
and Matte Gel on Produce  
Cardboard Box  
51 x 38 Inches  
2020

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Sunday Morning II  
Ink, Gouache, and Charcoal on Produce box  
33 x 44 Inches  
2019

Collection of Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA

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Self-Portrait En La  
Cherry (with Strawberry  
Fields Forever in the  
Background)  
Ink, Charcoal, Gouache  
and Matte Gel on Produce  
Cardboard boxes  
53 x 72 inches  
2020

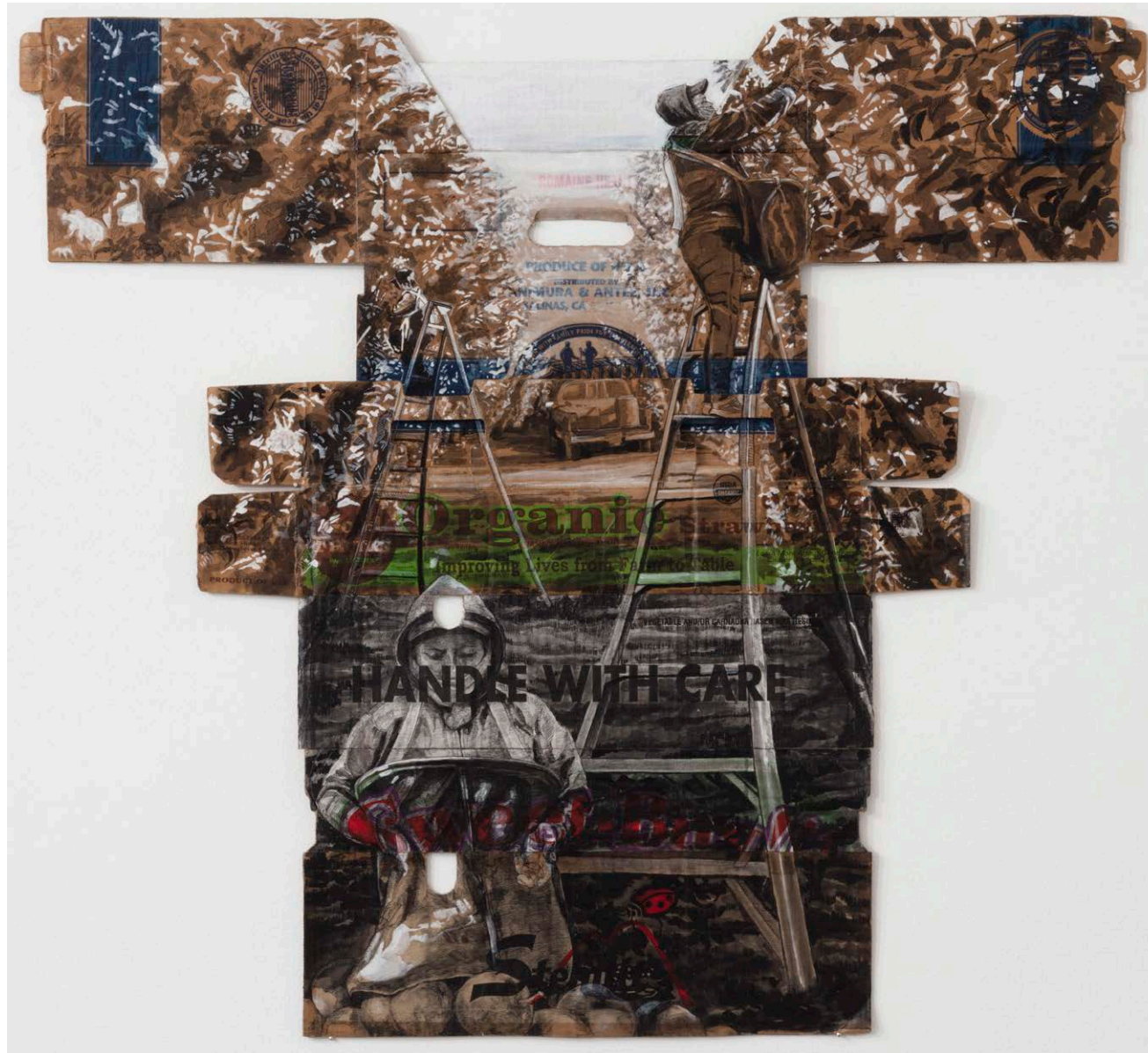
Collection of Santa  
Barbara Museum of Art

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In The Fresh  
Ink, Gouache,  
Charcoal and Matte  
Gel on Found Produce  
Box  
29.75 x 42.25 inches  
2020

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With Care  
Ink, Gouache, Charcoal  
and Matte Gel on  
Found Produce Box  
35 x 38 inches  
2020



NARSISO MARTINEZ  
PORTFOLIO



Orchard View  
Ink, Gouache, and  
Charcoal on Found  
Produce Box  
21.75 x 29 inches  
2020

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Fresh Cut (The Beginning  
of a New Day)  
Ink, Gouache, and Sharpie  
on Plastic Asparagus box  
45.5 x 29.5 inches  
2020

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The Brave 1, 2, 3  
Charcoal and Produce Label  
Collage on Linen  
20 x 20 inches / each  
2020

# NARSISO MARTINEZ PORTFOLIO



Good Farms  
Ink, Gouache, Charcoal  
and Matte Gel  
on Found Produce Box  
20.75 x 19.75 inches  
2020

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Golden Pickers  
Diptych  
Charcoal and Gold Leaf  
on Found Produce Boxes  
15.5 x 10 x 3 inches/each  
2020

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The Harvester  
Charcoal and Gold Leaf  
on Found Produce Box  
16 x 13.5 x 5 inches  
2020

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Eat Fresh  
Ink, Gouache, and Charcoal  
on Apple Protective Cushion  
12 x 19 inches  
2019

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Picking Cerezas  
Ink Pen on Paper  
Sheet: 14 x 11 inches  
Framed  
2020



# NARSISO MARTINEZ

## Education

2018 MFA, California State University Long Beach.  
2012 BFA, California State University Long Beach.  
2009 AA, Los Angeles City College.

## Solo Exhibitions

2021 Tender Leaves, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2020 Superfresh, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2019 Los Farmworkers, Visual Arts Building At the Orange County Fair, Costa Mesa, CA  
2019 Reclaimed Agriculture, SCC Art Gallery, Santiago Canyon College, Orange County, CA  
2018 Farm Fresh, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach CA  
2018 The Harvest, Center for Culture and Cinematic Arts, Mexican Consulate in Los Angeles, CA  
2018 The Harvest, E. Gatov Gallery at Cal State Long Beach, Long Beach, CA  
2013 Labor of Love, Dutzi Gallery at Cal State Long Beach, Long Beach, CA

## Group Exhibitions

2022 The Outwin 2022: American Portraiture Today, Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, Washington DC  
2021 Ni De Aqui, Ni De Alla, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2021 Absence/Presence: Latinx and Latin American artists in Dialogue, Another Space, New York NY  
2021 2021 LA Billboard Project, Los Angeles, CA  
2020 Living in America: An Exhibition in Four Acts, International Print Center New York  
2020 Life During Wartime, Art in the Age of Coronavirus, Online Exhibition, USF Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa, FL  
2019 Our Connection to the Land, MACLA, San Jose, CA  
2019 Arrivals, TAG Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
On Their Backs, Fellows of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA  
2019 Ganas de Existir, Angels Gate Art Center, San Pedro, CA  
2019 A Feminine Perspective, The Montalban Theater, Hollywood, CA

2019 There's no End to Her, ACE/121 Art Gallery, Glendale, CA  
2019 Protest, Noun, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA  
2018 Why I Paint, Realti Art Space, Daegu, South Korea  
2018 The Embodiment of Inclusivity, Xiem Clay Center, Pasadena, CA  
2018 Praxis, LBMAX, Long Beach CA  
2018 New Impressions National Printmaking Competition, Sawtooth's Davids Gallery, Winston-Salem, NC  
2018 Immigration 101, Avenue 50 Studio, Highland Park, CA  
2018 Painting the Night, Midnight Gallery, Long Beach, CA  
2018 Visual Resistance, Fullerton College Art Gallery, Fullerton, CA  
2017 Into the Now Figurative, Flatline Art Gallery, Long Beach, CA  
2017 Farm to Table, Brainworks Galley, Los Angeles, CA  
2017 PUMP, Public Urban Multisensory Presentations, The Packard by Millworks. Long Beach, CA  
2017 Here/There PST LA/LA, FM Fine ART Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2017 Borders, Angel City Brewery, Los Angeles CA  
2017 Postura, PST LA/LA/SUR Biennial, Whittier Historic Museum, Whittier, CA  
2017 Spacial Recognition, Finishing Concepts, Monterey Park, CA  
2017 Cross Town Traffic, Manhattan Beach Art Center, Manhattan Beach, CA  
2017 Sustainability Show Case, Earls Burns Miller Japanese Garden at California State University Long Beach, Long Beach CA  
2017 Defend and Advance, National Immigration Law Center, Los Angeles, CA  
2017 Verge 2017, South Bay Contemporary, San Pedro, CA  
2017 Insights 2017, University Art Museum, Long Beach, CA  
2017 State of the Union, Brainworks Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2017 Far Bazar, Cerritos College, Cerritos, CA  
2017 Dear President, South Bay Contemporary, San Pedro, CA  
2016 Arcadias, Werby Gallery, Cal State Long Beach, Long Beach, CA  
2016 Tracing Tomorrow, Collective Arts Incubator, Highland Park CA  
2016 Final Mass Attack, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance CA

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2016 System and Process, Angel City Brewery, Los Angeles, CA  
2016 S/Election, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2016 Contemporary Prints, Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA  
2016 Now Trending, Palos Verdes Art Center, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA  
2015 Insights 2015, University Art Museum, Long Beach CA  
2014 Getting Off The Ground, Angels Gate Cultural Center, San Pedro, CA  
2013 California Dreamers, Gatov West gallery at Cal State Long Beach, Long Beach, CA  
2012, Insights 2012, University Art Museum, Long Beach CA  
2012 Californians, Art Space Purl art gallery, Daegu, South Korea

## Prizes and Awards

2019 Stanley Hollander Award  
2018 Graduate Achievement Award  
2018 1st Place Graduate Speedball New Impressions National Printmaking Competition.

## Residencies and Fellowships

2019 May Artist in Residence at the Fountainhead Miami, FL.  
2019 Rema Hort Mann Foundation Emerging Artists in LA  
2018 Dedalus Foundation MFA Fellowship in Painting and Sculpture.  
2018 Artist in Resident Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach CA  
2018 Artist in Resident Long Beach City college, Long Beach, CA  
2017 Artist in Resident Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA

## Articles and Publications

2019 Farmworkers Come to Life Through O.C. Fair's Featured Artist  
<https://www.latimes.com/socal/daily-pilot/news/tn-dpt-me-oc-fair-featured-artist-20190715-story.html>

2018 Oaxaca-born Artist Paints Life in the Fields in First Solo Exhibition at Long Beach Museum.  
<https://lbpost.com/life/arts-culture/narsiso-martinez-farm-fresh/>

2018 Farm Fresh - Narsiso Martinez - Short Doc, 2018.  
<https://vimeo.com/292444440>

2018 The Personal and Political Landscapes of Narsiso Martinez.  
<https://artillerymag.com/the-personal-and-political-landscapes-of-narsiso-martinez/>

2018 Oaxacan Artist Draws on Personal Experience to Depict Farmworkers  
<https://dailytrojan.com/2018/08/30/oaxacan-artist-draws-on-personal-experience-to-depict-farmworkers/>  
2017 Narsiso Martinez.  
<http://thisisfabrik.com/narsiso-martinez/>

2017 Ep.10 Narsiso Martinez.  
<http://arttraffic.libsyn.com/ep-10-narsiso-martinez>

2017 CSULB Webpage, Artist Draws Inspiration From the Fields.  
<http://www.csulb.edu/article/csulb-artist-draws-inspiration-fields>

2016 Daily 49er, CSULB Artist Paints a Social and Political Message. <http://www.daily49er.com/artslife/2016/11/02/csulb-artist-paints-a-social-and-political-message/>

## Collections

Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
The Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, Los Angeles, CA  
Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth TX  
Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the University of Oregon  
Long Beach Museum of Art  
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento CA  
Jordan Schnitzer Museum at the University of Oregon  
Santa Barbara Museum