

The Bronx Museum of the Arts Launches *The Neighbors* A Three Part Exhibition Series Focused on Culture and Community

First exhibition in Series Considers the Taming of Art with Work from Three Contemporary Female Artists

Bronx, New York—July 11 2016— Opening July 13, The Bronx Museum of the Arts will present *Caza: Rochelle Gomez, Margaret Lee, Alejandra Seeber*, the first installment of *The Neighbors*, a three-part series of consecutive exhibitions of contemporary art curated by guest curator **Sofía Hernández Chong Cuy**. The series explores the aesthetic concerns of culturally-diverse artists in regards to two groups of ‘neighbors’: their original communities and families and the artists and experts who make up the professionalized art field. *Caza* – which means ‘searching’ or ‘hunting’ in Spanish, and is a homophone for the word home – includes a total of 18 works by **Rochelle Gomez, Margaret Lee, and Alejandra Seeber** that examine the place of art and, particularly, a ghostly presence of modernism, in spaces of domestic life, whether these are familiar or unfamiliar environments.

Each of the three artists included in *Caza* illuminate a distinct perspective on the dialogues between the language of visual art and the experience of daily life. The exhibition includes a video work, a new sculpture, and a series of drawings by Gomez that image the intersection of her childhood home and objects of modern art, underscoring the intimate, domestic sphere both as a refuge and a site of bewilderment. In contrast, the sculptures, photographs, and installations by Lee remove cultural specificity of artistic and domestic objects alike through a process of styled refinement staged for critique. Finally, the paintings included from Seeber’s practice portray abstractions of interior spaces inclusive of art displays, playfully accentuating the absurdities of artistic convention.

Through an exploration of work by Gomez, Lee, and Seeber, *Caza* seeks to answer some of the questions central to *The Neighbors* as a whole, namely: How do culturally diverse artists address their roots and cultural backgrounds in their art? Why create art that communicates to both their immediate communities and the art field? In what ways can an artists transform their means of production, if minimal, to shape a world? The exhibition series will feature work by **Firelei Baez, Andrea Bowers, Rochele Gomez, Ignacio Gonzalez Lang, Margaret Lee, Irvin Morazan and Alejandra Seeber**. The upcoming exhibitions in *The Neighbors*—which will open in October 2016 and spring 2017—address ideas around cultural uprooting and belonging, as well as social mobility and political resistance. For each exhibition in the series, **Gerardo Madera** is designing a gallery leaflet out of his Common Satisfactory Standard Print Shop.

About Rochele Gomez

Rochele Gomez (b. 1980, Los Angeles) lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. Last year, she was the subject of a solo exhibition at LA><art in Los Angeles, CA: *A Fireplace and Its Mirror* curated by Daniel Joseph Martinez. Other recent exhibitions include: *Out at the Elbows* at metro pcs in Los Angeles, CA (2014); *Ideal Territory* at Cirrus Gallery in Los Angeles, CA (2014); and *Saucy Leechcraft* at JB Jurve in Los Angeles, CA (2012). She is a recipient of the American Austrian Foundation/ Seebacher Prize (2014), which allowed her to travel to Europe and study at the Salzburg International Summer Academy of Fine Arts in Austria. In 2014, she received her MFA from the University of California, Irvine, and in 2006 a BFA from California State University, Long Beach.

About Margaret Lee

Margaret Lee (b. 1980, Bronx) lives and works in New York City. This year, she will be the subject of a solo exhibition at Duddell's in Hong Kong as part of the *Concentration* series organized by the Dallas Museum of Art. In 2014, her solo exhibition *closer to wrong than right/ closer to right than wrong* was presented at Jack Hanley Gallery in New York. Other recent exhibitions include: *NO MAN'S LAND: Women Artists from the Rubell Family Collection* (2105) at The Rubell Family Collection, Miami, *All Watched Over* (2015) curated by Tina Kukielski at James Cohan Gallery, New York, and *New Pictures of Common Objects* (2012) curated by Christopher Lew at MoMA PS1, New York. Lee's work has also been included in biennials, such as the 2014 Hammer Museum biennial, *Made in L.A.* and in the 2013 Biennale de Lyon. In 2009, Lee founded the artist-run space 179 Canal and is currently a partner in the gallery 47 Canal.

About Alejandra Seeber

Alejandra Seeber (b. 1969, Buenos Aires) lives and works in New York City. She has been the subject of solo exhibitions internationally, including at the Fundación Proa in Buenos Aires, Sperone Westwater in New York, Hausler Contemporary in Munich and Zurich, and Barro in Buenos Aires. Her work was featured in the 7th Bienal do Merocsul (2009) in Porto Alegre and in *S-files* (2003) at El Museo del Barrio in New York. Her work has also been featured in group exhibitions internationally, including at the Kunst Museum of Saint Gallen in Switzerland, the Museum of Modern Art of Buenos Aires, as well as the MALBA - The Latin American Art Museum of Buenos Aires. She studied at Prilidiano Pueyrredon School of Fine Arts in Argentina, and participated in the Beca Kuitca Studio Program in Buenos Aires and Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine.

About Gerardo Madera

Gerardo Madera (b. 1990, New York) is a graphic designer based in Brooklyn, where he runs from his studio the Common Satisfactory Standard Print Shop. He has a BFA in Communication Design from Pratt Institute and is a production assistant at Triple Canopy.

About Sofía Hernández Chong Cuy

Sofía Hernández Chong Cuy is an art curator who was born in Mexicali, Mexico and lives in Brooklyn, NY. Since 2011, she has served as the curator of contemporary art for Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, based in New York and Caracas. She also teaches at the School of the Visual Arts in New York and is as a member of the board of directors of Triple Canopy, a

non-profit art magazine based in New York. Previously, Sofía served as director of Museo Tamayo in Mexico City, held curatorial positions at Art in General and Americas Society in New York, and guest curated exhibitions for Kadist Art Foundation in Paris, the MALBA in Buenos Aires, and the Center for Contemporary Art in Vilnius, Lithuania. In 2013, Sofía served as artistic director and chief curator of the 9a Bienal do Mercosul | Porto Alegre in Brazil; and before that, she was an agent of dOCUMENTA 13 in Kassel, Germany. In 2009, she initiated the editorial project Murmur.

About The Bronx Museum of the Arts

The Bronx Museum of the Arts is an internationally recognized cultural destination that presents innovative contemporary art exhibitions and education programs and is committed to promoting cross-cultural dialogues for diverse audiences. Since its founding in 1971, the Museum has played a vital role in the Bronx by helping to make art accessible to the entire community and connecting with local schools, artists, teens, and families through its robust public programming and education initiatives. In celebration of its 40th anniversary, the Museum implemented a universal free admission policy, supporting its mission to make arts experiences available to all audiences. The Museum's collection comprises over 1,000 modern and contemporary works of art in all media with a focus on works by artists of African, Asian, and Latin-American ancestry, as well as artists for whom the Bronx has been critical to their development. Located on the Grand Concourse, the Museum's home is a distinctive contemporary landmark designed by the internationally recognized firm Arquitectonica.

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