



Second Triennial Conference of
The Association for Latin American
Art

**"Origins of State/Origins of
Identity"**

**The Los Angeles County
Museum of Art
November 12-14, 2010**

Mexico, Guerrero, **Pectoral**, 1000-600 BC,
Los Angeles County Museum of Art

The **Second Triennial Conference of the Association for Latin American Art** will be held on November 12th through 14th, 2010 at the **Los Angeles County Museum of Art** and coincides with LACMA's exhibition, *Olmec: Colossal Masterworks of Ancient Mexico*. The exhibition is co-organized by Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, LACMA, and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. An overarching theme for the exhibition is centered on the concept of discovery. The introductory gallery reveals how Olmec style art first came to public attention in the mid-nineteenth century with the serendipitous discoveries of the first great portrait head and smaller but equally beautifully carved jadeite objects. Subsequent galleries focus on how archaeological investigations have revealed the nature of Olmec art and society. Monuments and portable objects illustrate the distinctive nature of the most important Olmec cities, including San Lorenzo Tenochtitlán, La Venta, and Tres Zapotes, and the smaller towns that formed part of the political hierarchies on the Gulf Coast over the course of a thousand years (approximately 1400 to 400 BC).

Responding to the idea of discovery, the conference will be divided into three panels reflecting the main areas of research undertaken by the association's members: Pre-Columbian art and architecture, vice-regal and colonial art and architecture, and modern and contemporary art and architecture (Latin American and Latina/o). Participants will explore the theme "Origins of State and Origins of Identity" by focusing on how art is used in the generation of state and/or personal identity within a larger culture. The conference proposes to promote new research within each specialization and to initiate interdisciplinary discourse foregrounding current developments within the field of Latin American Studies.

Conference Program (abstracts for papers can be found online at:
<http://www.smith.edu/alaa/>)

Friday, November 12

7-9 pm LACMA - Reception in Pre-Columbian/Latin American galleries

Saturday, November 13

9-9:15 am Welcome and Introduction to Conference – **Virginia Fields & Khristaan Villela**

9:15-9:45 **Julia Guernsey** (The University of Texas at Austin), *Potbellies, Figurines, and the Construction of a Social Identity at the Cusp of State Formation in Preclassic Mesoamerica*

- 9:45-10:15 **María Elena Bernal-García** (Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Morelos, México), *Identity and Urban Planning in Middle Preclassic Tlatilco and Tlapacoya*
- 10:15-10:45 **Claudia Brittenham** (University of Michigan), *Art, Origins, and Identity at Cacaxtla*
- 10:45-11:00 Break
- 11:00-11:30 **Sarahh E.M. Scher** (Upper Iowa University), *Bodies Politic: Gender, Ambiguity, and Power in Moche Ceramic Art*
- 11:30-12:00 **William L. Barnes** (Saint Thomas University), *Divine Enterprise: The Birth of Imperial Art at Tenochtitlan*
- 12:00-12:30 Discussion – **Cecelia Klein**
- 12:30-1:30 Lunch
- 1:30-2:00 **Emily A. Engel** (University of California, Santa Barbara), *Viceroy and the Arts: The Visual Construction of Late-Colonial Identities*
- 2:00-2:30 **Briana Simmons** (University of California, Santa Barbara), *Enlightenment Ways of Seeing: Vicente Alban's Visualization of Identity in the Viceroyalty of New Granada Painting Series*
- 2:30-3:00 **Paul Niell** (University of North Texas), *The Conde de Villanueva's Fountain of the Indian, 1837, Havana: Constructing a Cuban Identity and the Battle for the Sign*
- 3:00-3:15 Break
- 3:15-3:45 **Miranda Viscoli** (Independent Scholar) *The Revolution of Maria Izquierdo: Constructs of Gender and National Identity in the Artist's Female Figures*
- 3:45-4:15 **Susan Vogel** (Independent Scholar), *From Revolution to Reminiscence: Mexico's and Pablo O'Higgins's Search for Identity*
- 4:15-5:00 Discussion -- **Jeanette Favrot Peterson**

Sunday, November 14

- 9:00-9:30 **Florencia Bazzano-Nelson** (Tulane University), *The Refractory Saint: Eva Peron's Sarcophagus for the Monumento al descamisado*
- 9:30-10:00 **Ana Franco** (Institute of Fine Arts, New York University), *Internationalism vs. Nationalism in Colombian art of the 1950s --Eduardo Ramírez-Villamizar's El Dorado*
- 10:00-10:30 **Aleca Le Blanc** (University of Southern California), *Tropical Modernisms at the Museu de Arte Moderna in Rio de Janeiro, 1950s*
- 10:30-10:45 Break
- 10:45-11:15 **Ann Marie Leimer** (University of Redlands), *Land, Body, and Nation: The Construction and Performance of Identity in Chicana/o Art*
- 11:15-11:45 **Jeff Karl Kowalski** (Northern Illinois University), **Mary Katherine Scott** (University of East Anglia), and **Kryssi Staikidis** (Northern Illinois University), *Expressions of "Maya Identity" in Contemporary Artworks from Yucatán and Guatemala*

11:45-12:15 Discussion – **Constance Cortez**

2:30-4:00 **Reception:** Reception at the Getty Research Institute includes preview of the exhibition *Obsidian Mirror-Travels: Refracting Mexican Archaeology*, co-curated by Khristaan Villela and Beth Guynn.

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