

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 27, 2018

THE DAVIS MUSEUM AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE DEBUTS SECOND WINDOW INVITATIONAL COMMISSION WITH FRAGMENTS FOR A HISTORY OF DISPLACEMENT



WELLESLEY, Mass. – The Davis Museum at Wellesley College will debut its second Windows Invitational with a commission designed by Daniela Rivera, associate professor of art at Wellesley College, titled *Fragmentos para una historia del olvido/Fragments for a history of displacement*. Rivera's installation is born of the artist's own experience as an immigrant and regards "the loss of the habitual." She has fitted salvaged doors with optical lenses and audio

speakers to explore "the many personal stories of immigration and the loss of familiarity of one's environment." The installation includes an eight channel audio piece designed by Jenny Olivia Johnson.

"The disruption in the core of an immigrant is something that is not really talked about," said Rivera. "I wanted to create an immersive experience that tells many personal stories of immigration and the loss of familiarity of one's environment."

The doors in the installation have peek holes that, when peered into, invert the image – a way of showing how one's world is "upside-down." The holes also feature quiet voices telling their own personal story of immigration, which can only be heard when close up to the object. These voices are recordings from interviews conducted by Rivera with immigrants from Central and Latin America.

Rivera (b. 1973, Santiago, Chile) describes herself as an experimental painter, whose work is as likely to take shape through video, photography, and installation as it is to find form through the expectable medium of paint on canvas. She holds a BFA from the Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago (1996), an MFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA) (2006), and was a Fellow at the Skowhegan School in Maine (2006). Rivera was a finalist for the Foster Prize in 2010, and presented a

major trans-medial installation, *Daniela Rivera: The Andes Inverted*, at the MFA from March 4, 2017 – February 25, 2018.

Fragmentos para una historia del olvido/Fragments for a history of displacement will be on view during the Spring 2019 exhibition, Art__Latin__America, which draws from the extensive collection of Latin American and Latino/a art housed at the Davis Museum. The exhibition will include more than 150 works by 100 artists from Latin America, Europe, and the United States.

The Windows Invitational at the Davis Museum engages artists in transforming the dramatic expanse of floor-to-ceiling ground-level windows that articulate the lobby and courtyard plaza of the Museum's signature Rafael Moneo building. The first iteration of the Windows Invitational launched in September 2017 with an installation by Dave Olsen, *Smoked My Head on Yes Waters*.

The Windows Invitational is organized by Lisa Fischman, Ruth Gordon Shapiro '37 Director, and is presented with generous support from Wellesley College Friends of Art at the Davis.

ABOUT THE DAVIS MUSEUM

One of the oldest and most acclaimed academic fine arts museums in the United States, the Davis Museum is a vital force in the intellectual, pedagogical, and social life of Wellesley College. It seeks to create an environment that encourages visual literacy, inspires new ideas, and fosters involvement with the arts both within the College and the larger community.

ABOUT WELLESLEY COLLEGE AND THE ARTS

The Wellesley College arts curriculum and the highly acclaimed Davis Museum are integral components of the College's liberal arts education. Departments and programs from across the campus enliven the community with world-class programming—classical and popular music, visual arts, theatre, dance, author readings, symposia, and lectures by some of today's leading artists and creative thinkers—most of which are free and open to the public.

Since 1875, Wellesley College has been the preeminent liberal arts college for women. Known for its intellectual rigor and its remarkable track record for the cultivation of women leaders in every arena, Wellesley—only 12 miles from Boston—is home to some 2,400 undergraduates from 49 states and 58 countries.

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Image credit: Excerpts of *Fragmentos para una historia del olvido/Fragments for a history of displacement*. Photography courtesy of Samara Pearlstein.

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