

# Contigo, Diana Solís

Exhibition closes September 23, 2023  
Gallery Hours: Saturdays, noon to  
5:00 pm and by appointment  
Email: sy@publicmediainstitute.com

**Closing Event: In Dialogue with Diana Solís**  
**Co-Prosperity Chicago, 3219 S. Morgan St.**  
**Friday, September 22, 2023, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**



Photograph by Colectivo Multipolar

Join us for a conversation  
with artists Oscar Arriola,  
Samantha Friend Cabrera,  
Marylu Herrera,  
Colleen Keihm,  
Juan Molina Hernández,  
and Diana Solís,  
moderated by co-curator  
Deanna Ledezma

*Contigo, Diana Solís* is a convening of photographs, artists, and communities curated by Nicole Marroquin and Deanna Ledezma. Rather than being structured as a “solo show,” *Contigo: Diana Solís* commemorates the social- and community-based dimensions of Solís’s photographic practice by bringing twenty artists into creative dialogue with them. The exhibition invites visitors to locate resonances among photographs by Solís and works by participating artists, while recognizing the specificities of their distinct social commitments, personal and collective histories, and sensibilities. In creative correspondence with Solís, these works act as points of intersection that help us understand art making as a practice done together, for our communities, and in response to others.

*Contigo, Diana Solís* Artists: Sandra Antongiorgi, Oscar Arriola, Samantha Friend Cabrera, Elle Muñoz Diaz, William Estrada, Maria Gaspar, Jackie Guataquira, Sarita Hernández, Marylu E. Herrera, Colleen Keihm, Sam Kirk, Nicole Marroquin, Juan Molina Hernández, Mony Nuñez, Sandra Oviedo, Clau Rocha, Vanessa Sanchez, CHema Skandal!, Akito Tsuda, and Nicholas Zepeda

## About the Panelists and Moderator:

**Oscar Arriola** is a Chicago-born curator, street photographer, and zine collector. He is a co-director of ZINEMercado zine fest and the Foto Mercado photography festival and organizes roving Stick-Up Chicago drawing meetups around the city. He has exhibited at the Chicago Cultural Center, Galerie F, the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, and SAIC's Joan Flasch Artists' Book Collection.

**Samantha Friend Cabrera** is a photographer, writer, and performer in Chicago. She is a graduate of the School of Visual Arts NYC and the founder of Quinceañera Archives—a public image collection turned artist collective that explores the importance of personal reflection, coming of age, and belonging. Her work often involves collaboration with friends and communities throughout the United States and Mexico.

**Marylu E. Herrera** (she/her) is a Chicago-based Chicana collage, printmedia, craft, and fiber artist who uses the home as a political and personal site where celebration is a form of existence and resistance. Herrera earned her BFA in Studio Art from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University and her MFA in Printmedia from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is currently a Chicago Art Department Resident and a part of the 2023 Center Program at Hyde Park Art Center. Most recently, Herrera has been awarded the 2023 Individual Artists Program Grant from DCASE.

**Colleen Keihm** is the Executive Director at Latitude. She received her MFA at the University of Illinois Chicago and a BS in Photography at Drexel University in Philadelphia. Her work has been exhibited in Chicago at Flatland, Roman Susan, Filter Photo, and Tiger Strikes Asteroid. She has been an artist in residence at Hatch Projects at the Chicago Artist Coalition and her work is a part of the photography collection at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Contemporary Photography, and the Midwest Photographers Project. In addition to her role at Latitude, she is an educator at UIC.

**Deanna Ledezma** (she/her) is a writer, educator, and historian of photography and Latinx art and visual culture. She earned her PhD in Art History from the University of Illinois Chicago and is the Postdoctoral Research Associate for the Inter-University Program for Latino Research/UIC Mellon Program. She is currently working on her book manuscript *Unsettled Archives: Kinships and Diasporas in Latinx Photography*. She wrote the foreword to Solís's artist's book *Luz: Seeing the Space Between Us* and has a book chapter on Solís's photography in progress. Her scholarly publication history includes *Art Journal*, *Photography & Culture*, and *caa.reviews*, with forthcoming publications in *Latin American and Latinx Visual Culture*, *Reworking Labor*, and *The Routledge Handbook of American Material Culture Studies*.

**Juan Molina Hernández** (b. Guanajuato, México) is a Chicago-based visual artist. Molina Hernández's art practice includes photography, textiles, and installations that explore narratives of home, lineage, memory, and un/belonging. By appropriating symbols from the environment, culture, and personal memory, they construct stories in relation to place, family, and a culture that never speaks just one language. Molina Hernández graduated from Northern Illinois University with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in photography. In the past, they have exhibited at ACRE Projects, ENGAGE Projects, Charlotte Street Foundation, Chicago Art Department, Chicago Artist Coalition, Roman Susan, and Tiger Strikes Asteroid Chicago.

**Diana Solís** (b. 1956, Mexico) is a Chicago-based visual artist, photographer, and educator who has documented queer activism and Latinx daily life for almost five decades. They studied studio and experimental photography and worked as a photojournalist for twenty-five years, occasionally halted by recurring breast cancer. They have photographed poets including Sandra Cisneros, many consecutive years of Chicago and Mexico Pride marches, IV Encuentro Feminista de América Latina y el Caribe, early years at Latino Youth, marches and demonstrations, Chicago women's rugby and women's marathons, women's bars, feminist gatherings, Chicano theater, and their neighborhood of Pilsen. They have been a teaching artist, painter, illustrator, and photographer for over forty years and currently reside in Pilsen. Solís is a 2023-24 recipient of the U.S. Latinx Art Forum (USLAF) Latinx Artist Fellowship.

Contigo, Diana Solís is co-sponsored by:

