

# RUBY CITY

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Photo by Jorge Villareal. Installation view, *Synthesis & Subversion Redux*, at Ruby City, 2025

## RUBY CITY ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL TRAVELING EXHIBITION, *SYNTHESIS & SUBVERSION REDUX*, ON VIEW AT FORT WORTH CONTEMPORARY ARTS

### *Synthesis & Subversion Redux*

March 6–May 2, 2026

On view at Fort Worth Contemporary Arts

First Floor, Molly Reid Hall, Texas Christian University (TCU)

3050 Waits Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76109

Opening Reception: Friday, March 6, 6–8 pm

**SAN ANTONIO (February 25, 2026)** – Ruby City, San Antonio’s free contemporary art center operated by the Linda Pace Foundation, is proud to announce ***Synthesis & Subversion Redux***, as the **first-ever traveling exhibition** organized by the institution. **On view from March 6 through May 2, 2026, at Fort Worth Contemporary Arts**, one of two galleries at Texas Christian University (TCU), this milestone exhibition reflects Ruby City’s ongoing commitment to expanding access to contemporary art and amplifying the voices of artists whose stories are essential to the cultural fabric of our communities and the world at large.

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**Fort Worth Contemporary Arts serves as TCU's most public-facing visual art venue.** Since opening in 2008, it has hosted more than 60 exhibitions featuring a diverse range of nationally and internationally recognized artists. The gallery regularly presents new, commissioned works, many debuting in Texas for the first time or created on-site during artist residencies, which offer students valuable hands-on experience and one-on-one engagement with artists and their work.

Curated by San Antonio-based curators, Elyse A. Gonzales, Director of Ruby City, and Mia Lopez, Curator of Latinx Art at the McNay Art Museum, *Synthesis & Subversion Redux* revisits and reexamines the legacy of art historian Dr. Frances Colpitt and her groundbreaking 1996 exhibition, *Synthesis and Subversion: A Latino Direction in San Antonio Art*. Rather than a restaging, this exhibition bridges past and present and is focused on the work of a younger generation of Latinx artists connected to San Antonio who are working with similar themes related to “autobiography, abstraction and the everyday.” Much like the original group of artists, those in *Redux* demonstrate how Latinx artists, not only in San Antonio, are expressing their personal experiences and identity through artistic gestures that challenge and incorporate prevailing practices in contemporary art. The exhibition demonstrates the evolution of Latinx art over the last three decades in which artists have adopted conceptual practices that incorporate or make references to the body and /or craft, a mode of working that has more recently taken place in contemporary art. Marginalized communities, including Latinx artists, have embraced figuration, and bodily references as well as the use of textiles, ceramics, paper and other traditional materials and methods of production to make contemporary statements.

Featuring the work of San Antonio-affiliated artists **Juan Carlos Escobedo, Jenelle Esparza, Bárbara Miñarro, Angeles Salinas,** and **José Villalobos**, the exhibition explores bicultural perspectives and the nuanced, layered realities of Latinx identity. Through textile-based installations, sculpture, video, photography, and craft-informed practices, these artists draw from familial histories, borderland experiences, and personal narratives to illuminate the intricacies of who they are and where they come from. As the first traveling exhibition for the Linda Pace Foundation and Ruby City, *Synthesis & Subversion Redux*, offers audiences an opportunity to encounter stories that are not always prominently told, foregrounding lived experiences shaped by hybridity and intersectionality while also advancing dialogue around identity, culture, ethnicity, migration.

**This exhibition underscores Ruby City's dedication to expanding access to contemporary art and affirms the institution's mission to create meaningful encounters with contemporary art and to foster dialogue across communities.**

The presentation at Fort Worth Contemporary Arts further contributes to critical discourse within the Dallas-Fort Worth region, offering audiences an opportunity to encounter complex narratives of identity and belonging while celebrating the continued vitality of San Antonio as a hub for Latinx creativity.

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**A free opening reception will be held on Friday, March 6, from 6–8 pm at Fort Worth Contemporary Arts.** Gonzales will be present to share opening remarks and engage in discussion with featured artist Angeles Salinas. **A panel discussion moderated by photographer, artist, and educator Raul Rodriguez will take place on Saturday, April 11 at 2 pm; additional details will be announced soon.**

## About the Artists

**[Juan Carlos Escobedo](#)** (b. 1985 El Paso, TX; lives San Antonio, TX) uses cardboard to create fantastical clothing items that feature intricate architectural renderings of homes and landscapes. His work addresses his experience of race and class on the border and throughout the United States, using cheap, ephemeral material as a conduit for larger considerations of socioeconomic discrimination and prejudice. [Click here to read Seyde Garcia's interview with Juan Carlos Escobedo.](#)

**[Jenelle Esparza](#)** (b. 1985 Corpus Christi, TX; lives San Antonio, TX) began her artistic career as a photographer, using her camera to capture landscapes and environments throughout South Texas. As she documented cotton fields where her family has historically labored, she soon began a conceptual investigation of cotton as material. Using textiles, found objects, and her family's history and memories she explores the legacies and traumas of agricultural labor. [Click here to read Kristopher Driggers reflection on the practice of Jenelle Esparza.](#)

**[Bárbara Miñarro](#)** (b. 1994, Monterrey, Mexico; lives Austin, TX) reflects on migration and the complexities of the United States–Mexico border through her soft sculptures and installations. Miñarro incorporates clothing worn by herself and other immigrants into her works, imbuing each object with tactile memories and personal journeys. [Click here to read Céleste Wackenhut's article on the work of Bárbara Miñarro.](#)

**[Angeles Salinas](#)** (b. 1972, Mexico City, Mexico; lives between San Antonio, TX and Macon, GA) deconstructs gender and cultural identity through installations, sculptures, and paintings. In works that are both nostalgic and critical, Salinas investigates her own notions of femininity and family alongside those of contemporary society. Using garments, personal ephemera, and textile elements, she dismantles and complicates stereotypes related to women, motherhood, and immigration. [Click here to read Bonnie Ilza Cisneros Villarreal's essay on the work of Angeles Salinas.](#)

**[José Villalobos](#)** (b. 1988, El Paso, TX; lives San Antonio, TX) confronts machismo and homophobia in performance, installation, and multimedia works. He embraces cultural practices and symbolism often associated with masculinity—cowboy boots and hats alongside machinery, tools, and trucks—and skews their meaning. He recalls his own lived traumas through corporal performance and activations, contending with violence and resilience. [Click here to read Alana Hernandez's essay on the work of José Villalobos.](#)

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*Synthesis & Subversion Redux was organized by the Linda Pace Foundation, Ruby City, San Antonio, Texas, and curated by Elyse A. Gonzales, Director, Linda Pace Foundation, Ruby City and Mia Lopez, Curator of Latinx Art, McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, Texas.*

**Fort Worth Contemporary Arts is located on the first floor of Molly Reid Hall at 3050 Waits Avenue, Fort Worth 76109 and open Wednesday – Saturday 12–5pm, or by appointment. Admission is free, everyone is welcome.** For more information about the relocation of Fort Worth Contemporary Art or exhibition programming by the Art Galleries at TCU, please call 817-257-2588, email [theartgalleries@tcu.edu](mailto:theartgalleries@tcu.edu), or check out social media.

Link Tree: <https://linktr.ee/tcuartgalleries>

Facebook: [The Art Galleries At TCU](#)

Instagram: [@tcuartgalleries](#)

Artsy: [www.artsy.net/fort-worth-contemporary-arts](http://www.artsy.net/fort-worth-contemporary-arts)

YouTube: [The Art Galleries at TCU](#)

**For further information contact:** Dr. Sara-Jayne Parsons, TCU Box 298000, Fort Worth, TX 76129, 817-257-2588, [theartgalleries@tcu.edu](mailto:theartgalleries@tcu.edu)

## About Ruby City

[Ruby City](#) is a contemporary art center in San Antonio, TX, dedicated to providing a space for the city's thriving creative community to experience works by both local and internationally acclaimed artists. Envisioned in 2007 by the late collector, philanthropist and artist [Linda Pace](#), Ruby City presents works from the Linda Pace Foundation Collection of more than 1400 paintings, sculptures, installations and video works. The building which opened in 2019 is designed by [Adjaye Associates](#) and is part of a campus, which also includes a sculpture garden, [Chris Park](#), a one-acre public green space named in memory of Pace's son, and [Studio](#), an auxiliary exhibition space which presents curated shows and [programming](#) throughout the year.

**Ruby City is open Thursday through Sunday, 10am to 6pm. Admission is always free; reservations are recommended. Information and reservations are available at [www.rubycity.org](http://www.rubycity.org).**

Facebook: [Ruby City Art](#)

Instagram: [@RubyCity](#)

TikTok: [@RubyCityArt](#)

YouTube: [Ruby City](#)

LinkedIn: [Ruby City](#)

**For further information please contact:** Patricia Morales, Head of Public Engagement & Communications, Ruby City by emailing [pmorales@rubycity.org](mailto:pmorales@rubycity.org)

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