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ABOUT THE EXHIBITION ABOUT THE EXHIE

AMA | Art Museum of the Americas of the Organization of American States (OAS) is pleased to present VIRAL, which is co-organized with New York City-based Cultural Producer Asher Remy-Toledo and produced in collaboration with Fondazione Rosselli Americas. Opening this summer, the exhibition will feature a group of world-class artists using new technologies to highlight contemporary themes such as migration, privacy, interconnectedness, and democracy. VIRAL seeks to call attention to the relevance of new media in the social and economic development of the Americas.

This exhibition has triggered outreach initiatives in partnership with the Fondazione Rosselli Americas around the idea of technology, art, development, and education. High schools in Latin America and the Caribbean would be invited to participate in experimental classwork that would explore the link between technology and development.

Steps from the White House and the Washington Monument, AMA is a modern and contempoary art museum in Washington, DC that showcases art produced in and about the Americas. AMA serves as a cultural bridge for the OAS to promote the democratic values of the organization: social and economic development, dialogue and education, human rights, justice, freedom of expression, and innovation. We are currenting working with other institutions around the world, particularly in the Americas, to ensure that the show travels to other locations after it closes in Washington.

In addition, we are already planning educational programming around the exhibit, including calling on young artists and science students to present their works to a jury composed of renowned members of the arts, science and knowledge community. The project aims at encouraging students to continue their studies in these fields and to look for innovate applications for their work.

SELECTED ARTISTS

Monika Bravo (Colombian-American)
Gina Czarnecki (United Kingdom)
Richard Garet (Uruguayan-American)
Raquel Kogan (Brazilian)
Rafael Lozano-Hemmer (Mexican-Canadian)
Yucef Mehri (Venezuelan-American)
Krzysztof Wodiczko (Polish-Canadian)

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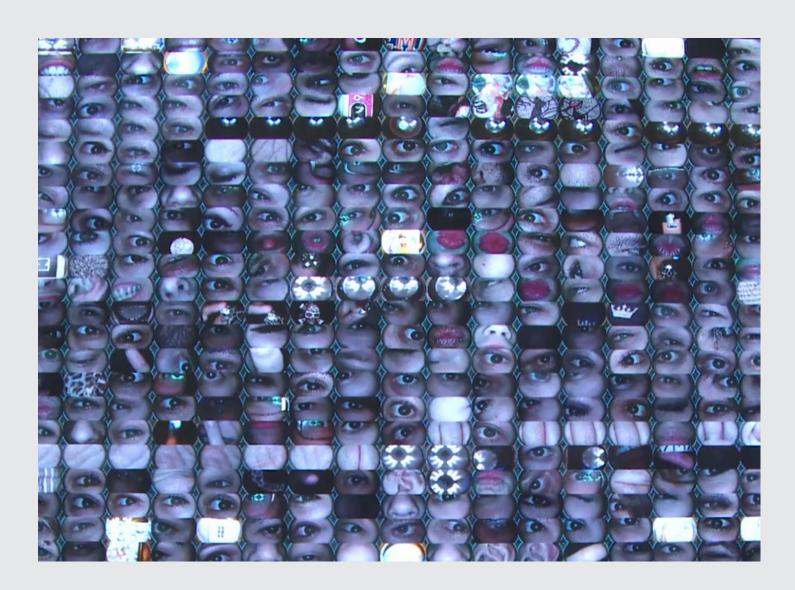
NAVIER-STOKES

Rafael Lozano-Hemmer (Mexican-Canadian)

Using over one hundred thousand LEDs, this piece is a computer-controlled lightbox that shows a satellite photo of the United States-Mexico border. The piece is directly sourced from surveillance images from the border crossing between San Diego and Tijuana.

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O.LHAR (LOOK)

Raquel Kogan (Brazilian)

An unassuming box with holes in it is mounted on the gallery walls. Visitors look inside, only to see a camera, which is recording their eyes. These recordings are then projected onto a grid across the wall. Raquel exposes issues surrounding privacy and surveillance in the public realm.

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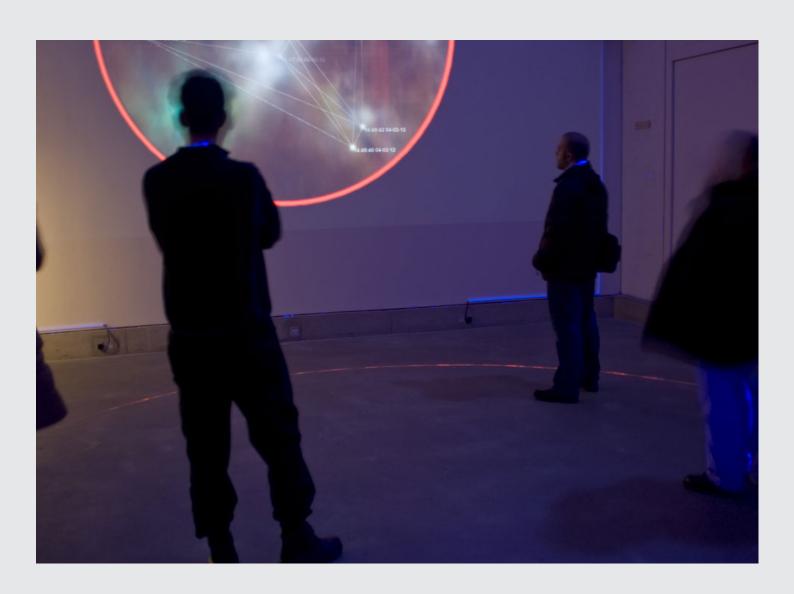
DIVINE SECURITY

Yucef Mehri (Venezuelan-American)

Yucef will feature a display in which you can view all Venezuelan presidents' social security numbers and personal information with the touch of the screen, highlighting the fact that all members of society, even the elite, are born on equal terms.

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CONTAGION

Gina Czarnecki (United Kingdom)

Gina's piece utilizes motion sensing technology to detect visitor movement within a glowing red circle on the floor. This motion influences the visuals being projected on the wall. Discussing the digital spread of information, her work is interactive and visitor-operated.

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TIMEPIECE: BE_HERE_NOW

Monika Bravo (Colombian-American)

Monika's installation will feature a trio of large screens encased in one-way mirrors (smaller version shown above). Messages in LED lights scroll across its surface posing existentialist questions to the viewer.

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Richard Garet (Uruguayan-American)

Richard's piece is an visual and aural abstract composition of sound environments, projection, and light. This minimalist piece connects to the origins of the geometric abstraction movement in Latin America and AMA's collection, but it has been reworked for the digital age.

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krzysztof wodiczko krzysztof wod



ABRAHAM LINCOLN: WAR VETERANS

Krzysztof Wodiczko (Polish-Canadian)

Krysztof, in his installation, projects the faces of soldiers, mothers, and others affected by on-going wars such in Afghanistan and Iraq onto a statue of Abraham Lincoln. This work is timely given the political interest in the USA on immigration and the war in Afghanistan.