



THE LINDA PACE FOUNDATION
PRESENTS

**Catalogue release of
*Alejandro Diaz: It Takes a Village***

and

**Book release party
with special guest Alejandro Diaz**

Thursday, April 13, 2017 | 6 – 8PM
At Brick Market in the Blue Star Arts Complex
108 Blue Star

Front cover of *Alejandro Diaz: It Takes a Village* catalogue

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS (February 20, 2017) – **The Linda Pace Foundation** is pleased to announce the release of the exhibition catalogue *Alejandro Diaz: It Takes a Village*, featuring the works of New York-based artist **Alejandro Diaz**. The catalogue is a counterpart to the 2015 SPACE Gallery exhibition of the same title.

As an artist with a national voice, Diaz grew up in San Antonio, Texas and much of his work is influenced by the contemporary Mexican/Texan cultures of his youth. *It Takes a Village* uses pop, modern and folkloric works of art as its starting point, and evokes previous artists or art movements that combined high and low art, often using language and humor as a form of cultural and socio-economic critique.

He was the recipient of the prestigious Louis Comfort Tiffany Award in 2007 and, in the following year, was selected to participate in a major group exhibition at LACMA, *Phantom Sightings: Art After the Chicano Movement*. Diaz's work has been reviewed in publications such as the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, *Art in America*, the *LA Times*, *Flash Art*, *Vogue Mexico*, *Artforum* and *Frieze*. His work is in the collections of the Smithsonian Museum of Art; LACMA; El Museo del Barrio, New York; Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art; Fundación Jumex; and the RISD Museum of Art.

The catalogue includes critical essays by Kathryn Kanjo, executive director of the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego, whose extensive art career has included positions as MCADSD's deputy director, contemporary art curator at the Portland Art Museum, and director at Artpace in San Antonio; and Rita Gonzalez, curator and acting department head of contemporary art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

The book also features poetic commentary from San Antonio-based artist and friend of Alejandro Diaz, Franco Mondini-Ruiz. Mondini-Ruiz is himself a celebrated contemporary artist whose works have been included in exhibitions across the United States including the Frederieke Taylor Gallery in New York, UCLA Fowler Museum in Los Angeles, and Jessica Murray Projects New York.

Alejandro Diaz: It Takes a Village was produced and published by the Linda Pace Foundation and designed by Anjali Pala, with highly acclaimed international design team of Miko McGinty, whose work includes *Dreaming Red: Creating ArtPace* (ArtPace, 2003) and *Art at Our Doorstep: San Antonio Writers and Artists* (Trinity Press, 2011).

The 80-page book is available for \$25 at SPACE Gallery, 111 Camp Street, San Antonio, Texas.

Alejandro Diaz will be the special guest at a Book Release Party on April 13th from 6 – 8 pm at Brick Marketplace in the Blue Start Arts Complex, 108 Blue Star. Refreshments and musical entertainment will be provided. Diaz will be available to sign copies of the catalogue, which will be available for purchase.

The Event is free and open to the public.

***Interviews & High Resolution Images Available Upon Request

Alejandro Diaz: It Takes a Village

Curated by Kathryn Kanjo, Executive Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego

Texts by Kathryn Kanjo, Rita Gonzalez and Franco Mondini-Ruiz

Publication Coordinator: Kelly O'Connor

Copy Editor: Lynne Chapman

Designed by Anjali Pala, Miko McGinty inc.

Hardbound with linen cover and debossed decal; 80 pages

Printed in Italy

Size: 9 1/2 x 10 1/4

Published by the Linda Pace Foundation 2016 / 9780997693904

About the Linda Pace Foundation

The Linda Pace Foundation is committed to the charitable vision of its founder. Guided by the donor's conviction that contemporary art is essential to a dynamic society, the Linda Pace Foundation fosters the creation, presentation and understanding of innovative expression through contemporary art. Grants support the International Residency Program at Artpace, CHRISpark, the public exhibition of Pace's contemporary art collection and the work of contemporary artists.

For more information visit www.lindapacefoundation.org

Media Contacts:

Leslie Komet Ausburn | Komet Marketing | leslie@kometcommunications.com | 210.326.8992

Kelly O'Connor | Collection & Exhibitions Officer | koconnor@pacefound.org | 210.678.4191