

Yohanna M Roa
yohannamroa.net

Artist Statement:

I am a visual artist, curator and art historian with a feminist-decentralized approach and archival perspectives. My practices aspire to produce changes in how we reflect, organize, and write about the past, particularly the history of art and our bodies. Being a Latin American woman is a specific political and social framework within this historical-conceptual construction that mediates my world experience. My work focuses on activating decolonial processes; the goal is to rescue or point out the memories, the knowledge and even the hidden or obscured bodies in the history writing processes. Traditionally, women have inherited knowledge through words and teaching in everyday spaces such as cooking or sewing.

I define my artistic practices under the concept of "activist fabrics," where textile practices are feminist political action devices. I am interested in pointing out that everyday activities and spaces, such as food, decoration, and care, are places to rescue stories connected to events of social magnitude. Those spaces and memories allow me to put on the table the connections between personal experiences and the sociopolitical structures, showing that the spaces considered individual and disconnected are actually social and structural.

Biography:

Yohanna M Roa is a visual artist, art historian, and feminist curator. She is in the Women and Gender studies program at the CUNY Graduate Center. Ph.D. in History and Critical Theories of Art program at the Universidad Ibero Americana de México. Master's degree in Visual Arts from the UNAM. As an artist, her artistic work has been studied, published and commented: by Karen Cordero for the 109 CAA Annual Conference, 2021, in *Revaluing Feminine Trajectories and Stitching Alternative Genealogies in the Work of Yohanna Roa*, and *Natalia De la Rosa: Yohanna M Roa, Textile Woman*. Casa del Tiempo Magazine, among others. She obtained the Young Creators Award from the Ministry of Culture of Colombia. Her work is part of the permanent collection of the Tlatelolco Cultural Center in Mexico City. In 2019 she had an artist residency at the NARS Foundation NYC. In 2018 she developed the project, the trip to Mamacaltepec Momoxco, during an artistic residency at Calpulli Tecalco ONG in Mexico City. She has a large number of solo and group exhibitions such as Manifest Gallery Cincinnati OH, Artlatinou- Mexico City, Looking At Contemporary Photography - Ruiz & Healy Art Gallery, Valenzuela & Klener Bogotá Colombia Gallery, Plataforma de la Feria de art Zur Präsentation Von Kunstinitiativenin Karlsruhe plus internationale Gäste, Raúl Anguiano Museum in Guadalajara Mexico, Luz y Oficios Gallery - Havana Cuba, ARTBO - Arte Cámara Colombia, Mc Nay Museum in San Antonio Texas USA, Chihuahua Station Gallery among others.

Exhibitions:

2023 *The Vance Waddell Residence, Yohanna M Roa: The New Historiographic Atlas, Documents And Portraits* (solo), Wave Pool Gallery Cincinnati, OH.

2023 *The New Historiographical Atlas*, Wave Pool Gallery, Cincinnati, OH.
2022 *Textile Woman*, ArtLatinou Gallery. Mexico City / MACO.
2020 *The Past Instructions for its Use*, Manifest Gallery, Cincinnati. Selección por jurado.
2020 *The Past Instructions for its Use*, La Bodega Gallery NYC..