

Rica Maestas

ricamaestas.com IG @ricaroux

Education:

MA | Brown University: public humanities

BA | USC: cognitive science, narrative studies, communications design

Solo Exhibition:

I grieve for our gone | Friends of Orphan Signs, Albuquerque NM, Jan-Mar 2025

We Are. Here Together. | Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque NM, Sep 2023

I'm Sorry (I cannot hold you.) | Vital Spaces, Santa Fe NM, Jun-Jul 2022

We Protect Each Other | Axle Contemporary, Santa Fe NM, Jul 2022

Group Exhibition:

Artists Out Loud | Rio Grande Center for Spiritual Living, Albuquerque NM, Sep-Nov 2026

Nuclear Family | ni de aquí ni de allá gallery, Albuquerque NM, Sep-Nov 2026

Declarations of Incongruence | fourteen fifteen gallery, Albuquerque NM, Jun-Aug 2026

Hares on the Mountain | Desert Mystery Center, Albuquerque NM, Mar-Apr 2026

Expansion | Revolt Gallery, Taos NM, Mar-Apr 2026

The Search for Radiance in the Grotesque | Zane Bennett Gallery, Santa Fe NM, Feb-Apr 2026

Nothing is Fixed | Ma's House, Brooklyn NY, Aug-Oct 2025

Selfhood | Strata Gallery, Santa Fe NM, Jan 2024

FUCK THE SYSTEM! | the space in between TX, Online, Mar 2023

Queer & Trans Joy | N4 Art Center, Albuquerque NM, Nov 2022

CTRL: Fuck That! | El Chante Casa de Cultura, Albuquerque NM, Nov 2022

Plantasia | Millennium Film Workshop, New York City NY, Sep 2022

the space in between | the space in between, Online, Oct 2021

but when you come from water | The Chapter House LA, Online, March 2021

Feminist Art in the Era of Trump | Axle Contemporary, Santa Fe NM, Sep 2020

REMNANTS: What's Left Behind | Specto Art Space, Harrisonburg VA, Nov 2019

Brown Arts Initiative Grant Show | Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, Providence RI, Apr 2018

The Piñata Exhibition (Sure to Be a Smash Hit!) | (group) National Hispanic Cultural Center Art Museum, Albuquerque NM, Jun 2017-Mar 2018

Brown Arts Initiative Grant Show | Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, Providence RI, Apr 2017

Touchable Art | Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts, Providence RI, Apr 2017

ATTACH FILES | 50/50, Kansas City MO, Apr 2017

Beyond the Pale | Think Tank Gallery, Los Angeles CA, May 2016

Performance:

Laughing doesn't need your help | Rio Grande River, Albuquerque NM, Jul 2025

Love me like little rabbit | Revolt Gallery, Taos NM, Aug 2024

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We Are. Here Together. LIVE | Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque NM, Oct 2023
Bedtime Stories | Meow Wolf, Santa Fe NM, Sep 2022
Summer Performance Series | Axle Contemporary, Santa Fe NM, Oct 2021
PASEO Festival | PASEO Project, Taos NM, Sep 2019
¿Se Acuililló? Groundhog Day | Trade Pop-Up, Providence RI, Feb 2018
Entropy: Chaos and Order | Brown University Science Center, Providence RI, Oct 2017
¿Se Acuililló? Are You Scared? | AS220, Providence RI, Oct 2017

Residencies & Practicums:

Risolana Inaugural Book Cohort | Albuquerque NM, Jun-Aug 2025
Friends of the Orphan Signs Symbiosis Artist Residency | Albuquerque NM, Dec 2024-Mar 2025
PASEO Project Artist in Residence | Taos NM, Aug 2024
Harwood Art Center Art & Social Justice Residency | Albuquerque NM, 2023
Santa Fe Art Institute Labor Residency | Santa Fe NM, 2022
Studio Museum in Harlem Museum Education Practicum | Online, 2020

Awards:

Fulcrum Fund: a grant program of 516 Arts in partnership with the Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts | Albuquerque NM, 2025
Brown Arts Initiative Grant | Providence RI, 2018
Brown Arts Initiative Grant | Providence RI, 2017
Brown Arts Initiative Grant | Providence RI, 2016
USC Renaissance Scholarship | Los Angeles CA, 2016
USC Global Scholar | Los Angeles CA, 2016
USC Order of Troy | Los Angeles CA, 2016
USC Undergraduate Writing Conference First Prize for Analytical Essay | Los Angeles CA, 2016
Turkish Coalition of America Travel Grant | Istanbul Turkey, 2015

Select Published Work:

Artivism + Advocacy and the Arts | Our Wisdoms: Community knowledge from neighbors of the International District, Albuquerque, NM by Monte-Angel Richardson, MSW, PhD, Rica Maestas, MA | Routledge (forthcoming)
Arts Activism in the Shadow of SpaceX | Southwest Contemporary, Mar 2026
Nansi Guevara dreams just futures into being | Intervenxiones: The Latinx Project at NYU, Mar 2026
Pathways through Opacity and Apocalypse | El Palacio Magazine, Dec 2025
Manic ExxonMobil Impersonators Pitch a Rising Protest Aesthetic: Razor-Sharp Silliness | Southwest Contemporary, Oct 2025
To Fill Jagged Gaps in the History of Native Slavery, These Artists Use Their Bodies | Southwest Contemporary, May 2025
Impact Storytelling: Shayla Blatchford's Anti-Uranium Mapping Project | Southwest Contemporary, March 2025

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Forging: Seed | *How to make a goathead soft*, Forge Project, Jun 2023
Pasa por Aquí | *Loving La Llorona*, New Mexico Humanities Council, May 2022
Radical Hospitality Reader | *Host Gift Selection Form* co-authored by Julia Renaud, Practice Space, Jan 2020
Triple Candie's 'Throwing Up Bunnies' | *In Praise of Barf Bunnies* co-authored by Steve Lubar, The Addison Museum of American Art Press, Feb 2019
SOMOS Latinx Literary Magazine | Dec 2017
Make/Shift: Feminisms in Motion | Jun 2016

Conferences & Speaking:

University of New Zealand Conference for the Social Sciences He kai kei aku ringa | *Our Wisdoms: Community Knowledge from Neighbors of the International District in Albuquerque, New Mexico*, Auckland NZ, Dec 2026
Harwood Art Center | *Art & Social Justice Panel*, Albuquerque NM, Jun 2023
Santa Fe Playhouse | *Skeletal Series shop/talk*, Santa Fe NM, Aug 2022
Santa Fe Art Institute | *SFAI 140*, Santa Fe NM, Jun 2022
Coe Center | *Word!*, Santa Fe NM, May 2022
Association for the Study of Arts of the Present (ASAP) Conference 12 | *Critical Theories & Practices of Softness*, Online, Nov 2021
New Mexico Humanities Council | *Acequia Aqui: Storytelling and Poetry*, Online, Mar 2021
Public Work Podcast | *moonhaus*, Online, Apr 2018
Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts | *16th Anthology Symposium*, Providence RI, Oct 2016

Curatorial:

New Mexico Arts | Community Arts Development Grant Panelist, Santa Fe NM, 2022
Charlotte Street Foundation | Visual Artist Awards Grant Panelist, Kansas City MO, 2022
RISD Museum | Public Programs, Providence RI, 2018
John Nicholas Brown Center Public Humanities Gallery LAB | *moonhaus*, Providence RI, Mar 2018
David Winton Bell Gallery | Curator of *Llevando La Cultura: Conflicting Narratives in Mexican Art*, Providence RI, 2018
David Winton Bell Gallery | Co-curator of *Carrie Mae Weems: Kitchen Table Series*, Providence RI, 2017
National Hispanic Cultural Center | Public Programs, Albuquerque, NM, 2017
Perry and Marty Granoff Center for the Creative Arts | Curator of *Santuario*, Providence RI, 2017
USC Main Campus | Curator of *CARTharsis*, Los Angeles, CA, 2016

Cultural Work:

SITE SANTA FE | Digital Storytelling Manager, Santa Fe NM, 2019-2024
Vital Spaces | Program Manager, Santa Fe NM, 2020-2021

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David Winton Bell Gallery | Curatorial Assistant, Providence RI, 2016-2018
USC Visions & Voices | Student Coordinator, Los Angeles CA, 2013-2016

Press:

Taos News | *Rica Maestas' radical care: PASEO welcomes next artist in residence*, Aug 2024

Santa Fe New Mexican | *Be the balm in the Gilead* by Michael Abatemarco, Jul 2022

Santa Fe Reporter | *What Becomes Part of You* by Alex DeVore, Jul 2022

The Coastal Post | *The rooms in which we are born* by Bethany Tabor, May 2021

Maine Arts Journal | *Feminist Art in the Trump Era* by Lucy Lippard, Fall 2020

Providence Journal | *Revolution and intrigue* by Channing Gray, Jan 2018

Brown Daily Herald | *Grad student's exhibit honors New Mexico landmark* by Roland High, Nov 2016