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| athicalogo | 675 Pulaski Street  Suite 1200 Athens, GA 30601 USA 706-850-7770  www.athica.org  GALLERY HOURS DURING  *Losing Control: Guns, Government, and Group-Think*  Wed-Fri: 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Sat: 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm  Sun: 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm  Third Thursday, November 18:  4:00 PM – 9:00 PM  Closed for Holiday  Wed 11/27-Friday 11/29/19 |

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For additional information about the ATHICA exhibition and events: Lauren Fancher, Operations Coordinator and Board President, ATHICA (lhfancher@gmail.com, 706-338-2751)

**Losing Control: Guns, Government, and Group-Think**

**November 2 - December 8, 2019**

**Featuring works by Victor Ali, Natalie Baxter, Jessica Caldas, Deja Echols,**

**Hector Rene Membreno-Canales, Mark Menjivar, Jason Reed, Ricder Ricardo,**

**Corrina Sephora, Darryl DeAngelo Terrell, and Paul Weiner**

**Curated by Arlette Hernandez**

**Exhibition and Events at ATHICA**

* **Opening Reception: Saturday, November 2, 2019, 6:00-9:00 PM**
* **Curator Talk with Arlette Hernandez: Sunday, November 3, 4:00-5:00 PM**
* **Visiting Artist Engagement with Mark Menjivar:** 
  + **Thursday, November 14, 2019, 6:00-7:00 PM:  A conversation with visiting artist Mark Menjivar, Assistant Professor in the School of Art and Design at Texas State University, and Marni Shindelman, Associate Professor and Area Chair for Photography at the UGA Lamar Dodd School of Art. The two will compare notes on social practice, the border, and their respective approaches to both.**
  + **Friday, November 15, 2019, 12:30 PM: Activation/Performance/Talk by visiting artist Mark Menjivar, related to the exhibited work "DLP." This ongoing project examines the full contents of convicted murderer David Lee Powell's cell at the time of his execution in 2010, which ended his 32-years on death row.**
* **Experimental Music with Kathryn Koopman: Saturday, December 7, 7:00 PM**

The Founding Fathers, Manifest destiny, westward expansion, the cowboy: such concepts and personas are deeply embedded in the American psyche, bound up with the gunpowder and bullets that made them possible. Today the differing value systems that surround gun culture are pitting cherished notions of individual freedom and the second amendment against equally cherished notions of safety and de-escalation. Society is adapting to mass violence with procedures and security measures, creating a culture of defense and preparation that stops short of a systemic solution driven by government action. In this time of polarization and impasse, art can provide avenues for reflection that transcend language. In this spirit, ATHICA offers the exhibition *Losing Control: Guns, Government, and Group-Think,* which references some of the fragments and illusions of our national self-image, behavior, and policy.

Curator Arlette Hernandez states, "Anywhere you go, the same conversation is being had: this country has a gun problem and we need to start reckoning with that reality. This exhibition tries to do some of that reckoning by exploring the broader culture of violence that guns have produced, and all the while asking us to look at the ways it touches our lives, leaving none of us unmarked."

The eleven artists whose work is in the exhibition come from different areas of the country and have different backgrounds and sensibilities. Two sculptors, **Corrina Sephora** (Atlanta, Georgia) and **Natalie Baxter** (High Springs, New York), address the materiality of guns with opposite materials—metal and fabric—while sharing a biting and whimsical point of view. The photographer **Hector Rene Membreno-Canales** (Andover, Massachusetts)stages tableaux in the style of Netherlandish *vanitas* paintings, in which still-life-like settings frame the weapons of war, as well as in the style of Michelangelo’s *Pietà*, in which a marine cradles his dying comrade in his lap. **Jason Reed** (New Braunfels, Texas)uses appropriated photographs from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection official archives to reflect on the bureaucracy and the individuals within it, while **Paul Weiner** (Denver, Colorado) uses the appropriated materials of the shooting range to create a sense of the depersonalization and repetition of shooting-inspired shooters. **Mark Menjivar (**San Antonio, Texas**) and Darryl DeAngelo Terrell (**Detroit, Michigan)both work with social engagement, language, and the legacies of violence; Menjivar through the catalogued effects of an executed cop-killer, and Terrell through the words of those left behind. **Jessica Caldas** is also involved in advocacy and social practice. Her installation of four pieces confronts relationships between people and community stories within the context of larger social issues, the silence around such stories caused by stigma, and the ways that stigma perpetuates violence and othering. Three Jacksonville, Florida area artists work in mixed media and figuration. **Victor Ali**'s portraits address themes of group-think and governmental oppression, while **Deja Echols** uses graphite and spray paint to reflect on the impact of gun violence in the black community, and **Ricder Ricardo** paints in acrylic on vinyl to explore the different demographics across America affected by gun violence and the increasing loss of safe spaces.

*Losing Control: Guns, Government, and Group-Think* is sponsored in part by The James E. and Betty J. Huffer Foundation, The Georgia Council for the Arts, and The National Endowment for the Arts.

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**About the Curator**

Arlette Hernandez is a recent graduate and emerging museum professional. For the past year,

she has worked on exhibitions at local museums and art galleries in Northeast Florida. Hernandez is currently the Emily K. Rafferty intern in museum administration at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

CURATOR HEADSHOT

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|  | Arlette Hernandez  Jacksonville, Florida and New York City, New York  Download High Res Image:  <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B5VO5HVCJiwGeGV6ZTNaUXhQcE5QZk9NLTNTNGVCUGJoSDJF>  CV: <http://arlettehernandez.com/cv-resume> |

**About the Visiting Artist Mark Menjivar**

Mark Menjivar is a San Antonio-based artist and Assistant Professor in the School of Art and Design at Texas State University. His work explores diverse subjects through photography, archives, oral history and objects. He holds a BA in Social Work from Baylor University and an MFA in Social Practice from Portland State University. Menjivar has engaged in projects at venues including the Rothko Chapel, the Bemis Center for Contemporary Art, The Houston Center for Photography, The San Antonio Museum of Art, The Puerto Rican Museum of Art and Culture, Blue Star Contemporary Art Museum, and the Krannert Art Museum. Mark's work has been featured by *Artforum, TED, NPR, The New York Times, The New Yorker, The Village Voice, Gastronomica, National Geographic, Orion Magazine, GUP Magazine,* and more.

More information: <https://www.markmenjivar.com>

**About Marni Shindelman**

Marni Shindelman is Associate Professor in Photography at the University of Georgia andArea Chair for Photography at the UGA Lamar Dodd School of Art. She received her MFA from the University of Florida and a Bachelor of Philosophy in Interdisciplinary Studies from Miami University (Oxford, OH).  She currently is a lecturer and Area Chair for Photography at the University of Georgia, Lamar Dodd School of Art. Prior to that she taught ten years at the University of Rochester. Her work has been in exhibitions at Crystal Bridges Museum, a solo exhibition at Blue Sky in Portland, United Photo Industries in Brooklyn, the Contemporary Arts Center Las Vegas. Light Factory in Charlotte, the FotoFestiwal in Poland, the Houston Center for Photography, Baltimore Museum of Art, the Moscow International Biennale in Russia,and Conflux Festival in NYC.  She has been a resident at the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation and Light Work in Syracuse, NY. Her collaborative projects have been featured in *Wired Magazine, GUP Magazine, The Picture Show* from NPR*, The Dish, PetaPixel, Fast Company, Gizmodo, Hyperallergic,* the *New York Times, Hostshoe Magazine,* the *Washington Post, Utne Reader, Flavorwire, Frieze Magazine,* the *British Journal of Photography,* the *BBC News Viewfinder,* and on the radio program *Marketplace Tech Report*.

More information: <http://www.larson-shindelman.com>

IMAGES OF PARTICIPATING ARTISTS’ ARTWORK AND LINKS

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| page1image62790560 | **Victor Ali**  **Jacksonville, Florida**  *We Are (Not) Machines* (2018), Digital, ink on BFK paper, 24in x 24in, $250  Download High Res Image: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1t3-UDteuP7Ifh3LWEc7mnj0Is4QXsgKO>  CV:<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9cjUvaVCTAGYm1sSFM2VHFBZEMyRmU1WDAyX2dfU0hDcEEw/view?usp=sharing>  Website: [victoraliart.com](http://victoraliart.com/) |
|  | **Natalie Baxter**  **Ridgewood, New York**  *Patty* (2018), Fabric & polyfill, 10in x 30in, $350  Download High Res Image: https://drive.google.com/open?id=14qwuILqIrA-17RlxiFrgiFooXjtlhRRb  CV:<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QSBiXGKqhzPpuAqzaNXTD4TgUecL3SMSn8taoBOP-5Y/edit?usp=sharing>  Website: [www.nataliebaxter.com](http://www.nataliebaxter.com/) |
|  | **Jessica Caldas**  **High Springs, Florida**  Preliminary Sketch, Installation View  Four Mixed Media Pieces on Panels Plus Objects (2019), $1000 each.  Download High Res Image: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=13rU6e0xU1HU4oskr2CsP6lH_6I_vEvxr>  CV: <http://jessicacaldas.com/showhistory>  Website: [www.jessicacaldas.com](http://www.jessicacaldas.com/) |
|  | **Deja Echols**  **Jacksonville, Florida**  *Black Voices In White Spaces (vol. II) (*2019), Graphite and spray paint on Arnhem 1618 mounted on MDF  Download High Res Image: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=19hKJ8CW37APKLCu6OO48I_yf4XmogjTS>  CV: https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/d386e6ab-b7da-45ad-a424-413f9b562cfe/downloads/CV.final.docx?ver=1569606810208  Website: [Dejanicole.com](http://dejanicole.com/) |
| C:\Users\cccal\AppData\Local\Packages\Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe\TempState\Downloads\MEMBRENO_CANALES_03 (1).tif | **Hector Rene Membreno-Canales**  **Andover, Massachusetts**  *Nature Morte 2,* (2014) 16in x 24in (sizes vary), inquire for price  Download High Res Image: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ts7UdAMiQhDJHaiXowLrKTkrCFYkqoXQ>  CV: <http://media.virbcdn.com/files/64/fdec69e05740629d-HRMasterCV.pdf>  Website: [www.HectorRene.com](http://www.hectorrene.com/) |
|  | **Mark Menjivar**  **San Antonio, Texas**  *DLP Wall* (2019), Adhesive Inkjet Print, 40in x 60in, NFS  Download High Res Image: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/al5xzmtiydqdmcq/DLP_WALL.jpg?dl=0>  CV: <https://www.markmenjivar.com/about>  Website: markmenjivar.com |
| C:\Users\cccal\AppData\Local\Packages\Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe\TempState\Downloads\Final Print 01 (1).jpg | **Jason Reed**  **New Braunfels, Texas**  Selection of Pictures from U.S. Customs and Border Protection official archives hosted on Flickr. From the project, *The Place Where Flags Wave (*2019), Archival Inkjet Prints, 13in x 80in, NFS  Download High Res Image: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nPVumWmjfSTDmUMt2-8xJyWehV8_TvWx>  CV: NA  Website: [borderlandcollective.org](http://borderlandcollective.org/) |
| C:\Users\cccal\AppData\Local\Packages\Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe\TempState\Downloads\88D40714-F452-4FA0-8EDC-BE19F24A6FC2 (1).jpeg | **Ricder Ricardo**  **Jacksonville, Florida**  *Caras V (*2017), Acrylic on vinyl, 12in x 72in, $500  Download High Res Image: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_WhxToRbO2vYqapRWI-HyvrYXZARVnrr/view?usp=sharing>  CV: NA  Website: [ricderricardo.com](http://ricderricardo.com/) |
| C:\Users\cccal\AppData\Local\Packages\Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe\TempState\Downloads\Flourish - Corrina Sephora (1).jpg | **Corrina Sephora**  **Atlanta, Georgia**  *Flourish* (2019), Recycled guns and gun barrels, forged steel, 13.5in x 28in x 5in, $2,900  Download High Res Image: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZykNB_acwY71iFXWY-wU2Z-HCqyg02o7>  CV: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1J3igNuz_wg36U6Xd55tPCPJPzvHk2GK6P7-qeQzIorY/edit?usp=sharing>  Website: <http://corrinasephora.com/> |
|  | **Darryl DeAngelo Terrell**  **Detroit, Michigan**  *In Your Name... (Charde's Prayer) (*2018), Vinyl Wall Print, 30in x 39in, $2500  Download High Res Image: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=15snV9x5lrgAfPG2gHL_Uc5bMWOfdfEAr>  CV: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ofJeECBo89RpIyO7bZpuKOU52eyFIXIoT04VlVWRzjg>  Website: [www.darryldterrell.com](http://www.darryldterrell.com/) |
|  | **Paul Weiner**  **Denver, Colorado**  *Copycat* (2019), Human anatomy targets, bullseye targets, steel target holder, labeler, and pasters, Dimensions variable, $4,000  Download High Res Image: https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B5VO5HVCJiwGSFNQVldtTHU3SzZNTk92SGxtLWVSYzhIRGgw  CV: <https://www.paulowenweiner.com/m/cv>  Website: [www.paulowenweiner.com](http://www.paulowenweiner.com/) |