

Exhibition Dates
March 27–July 25, 2020
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Opening Reception
March 27, 2020 | 5–9PM



Hillary, Marisa Futernick, 2020

ALMOST PRESIDENTIAL

The Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art presents *Almost Presidential*, an exhibition of new work by five artists who examine the American political landscape from an unfamiliar angle. Featuring sculpture, drawing, photography, and video by Pio Abad, Deborah Aschheim, Cintia Segovia, and exhibition curators Marisa J. Futernick and Rebecca Sittler, *Almost Presidential* highlights artists whose previous bodies of work have challenged the visual and rhetorical representations of former presidents and their legacies. In the run-up to the 2020 U.S. Federal election, the exhibition looks at vice presidents and failed presidential candidates, investigating names forgotten to history, or reduced to one-liners or supporting roles outside the spotlight.

What happens when these physical embodiments of collective political hopes and dreams return to daily life and become civilians again? What traces do they leave in our political imaginations? How do they inform assumptions about future candidates or impact how we see ourselves and each other through a political lens? Though our national histories are often written with the victors in mind, failed candidates can also have a substantial impact on intangible ideas surrounding “electability” and how we visualize presidential power.

Presenting a timely exploration of political rhetoric, failure, and gendered dynamics within political systems in the U.S. and beyond, including Mexico and the Philippines, these five artists combine fiction and historical fact into an active survey of material, text, and image.

Pio Abad

Working in a range of media, including textiles, drawing, installation and photography, Pio Abad uses strategies of appropriation to mine alternative or repressed historical events, unravel official accounts, and draw out threads of complicity between incidents, ideologies and people. He began his art studies at the University of the Philippines before receiving a BA from Glasgow School of Art and an MA from the Royal Academy Schools, London. Abad’s work has appeared at the Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia; 2nd Honolulu Biennial, HI; 12th Gwangju Biennial, South Korea; 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Sydney, Australia; EVA International Biennial, Limerick, Ireland; e-flux, New York City; Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong; Gasworks, London; and the Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, and Jorge B. Vargas Museum, Manila, Philippines. He is based in London.

Deborah Aschheim

Deborah Aschheim creates installations, sculptures, and drawings based on invisible worlds of memory and information. She received a BA in Anthropology from Brown University and an MFA from the University of

Washington. Her work has been exhibited at Los Angeles International Airport, Los Angeles, CA; Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI; Pasadena Museum of California Art, Pasadena, CA; Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis, MO; The Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA; Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE), CA; Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA; Austin Museum of Art, Austin, TX; and the Ben Maltz Gallery at the Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, CA. Aschheim lives and works in Los Angeles.

Marisa J. Futernick

Marisa J. Futernick looks at the promise of the American Dream and expressions of “Americanness,” intertwining the personal with the historical and fact with fiction. She uses a variety of media, including photography, film and video, installation, writing and artist’s books, drawing, silkscreen, and painting. Futernick received a BA from Yale University and an MFA from the Royal Academy Schools, London. Her work has been exhibited at Oxy Arts and Monte Vista Projects, Los Angeles, CA; Yale University, CT; and Whitechapel Gallery and Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK. She has published several artist’s books, including *13 Presidents* (Slimvolume, 2016) and *How I Taught Umberto Eco to Love the Bomb* (RA Editions and California Fever Press, 2015). Futernick is based in Los Angeles.

Cintia Segovia

Cintia Segovia employs video, performance, and photography to delve into issues of immigration, cultural stereotypes, language, and identity. Born and raised in Mexico City before moving to the U.S., she considers American culture from the humorous perspective of someone who is neither an insider nor an outsider. Segovia received a MA from California State University, Northridge, and an MFA from California State University, Long Beach. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Latin American Art, CA; Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, CA; Torrance Art Museum, CA; and Spartanburg Art Museum, SC. Currently she teaches photography at several colleges and universities in California.

Rebecca Sittler

The still life photographs of Rebecca Sittler examine the interpretive possibilities of familiar objects, often combining observational and directorial approaches to making an image. She received her BA from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and her MFA from the Massachusetts College of Art. Her work has been exhibited at the Photographic Center Northwest, Seattle, WA; Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA; Sam Lee Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; the Archive of Documentary Arts at Duke University, Durham, NC; the Griffin Museum, Winchester, MA; Atlantic Center for the Arts, New Smyrna Beach, FL; Ulsan International Photography Festival, Ulsan, South Korea; and the Pingyao International Photography Festival, Pingyao, China. Sittler lives and works in Long Beach, CA.

About the UNLV College of Fine Arts

Located on the main campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the UNLV College of Fine Arts offers graduate degrees in Art, Architecture, Film, Music, Dance, Theatre, and Entertainment Engineering and Design, a unique discipline that combines engineering with technical theatre training. The College’s facilities include theaters and contemporary art galleries as well as the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art.

About the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art

The Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art believes everyone deserves access to the arts. Located on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the Barrick promotes a powerful awareness of the arts through programs of exhibitions, workshops, lectures, and community activities. Admission is free.

Press Contact

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Find Us

The Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art is located in the heart of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus. The museum is easily accessed from the west side of campus at the intersection of Harmon Avenue and Swenson Street. Drive east on East Harmon Ave until the road enters the campus and terminates in a parking lot. The Museum will be on your right, next to a desert landscape garden.

