



Guillermo Galindo, *Siguiendo Los Pasos del Nino Perdido/Following the Steps of the Lost Child*, 2017,  
Acrylic on beacon flags used by humanitarian aid group Water Stations.

## SHIFTING PERSPECTIVES

A DIGITAL EXHIBITION

DECEMBER 2, 2020—MARCH 7, 2021

### [PRESS KIT](#)

**Oakland, CA (November 5, 2020)** — Featuring works from Mills College Art Museum's permanent collection, *Shifting Perspectives* is a digital exhibition examining contemporary artists' critiques of traditional visual representations of race, culture, and gender. Using subversion, resistance, and satire, the artists in the exhibition confront systemic sexism and racism to bring attention to power dynamics and socio-political issues.

The works in the exhibition reflect the subjective experiences of the artists themselves and the identities they embody. A lynchpin of the exhibition is work by the Guerrilla Girls, an activist group of women artists who target tokenism and sexism within the artworld. Their interest in the underrepresentation and objectification of women—in particular, women of color—is echoed in the works of Faith Ringgold, Shahzia Sikander, and Mona Hatoum, which reclaim the female body while subverting cultural stereotypes.

While the exhibition includes biting political satire by The Bruce High Quality Foundation and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century Mexican printmaker Jose Guadalupe Posada, many of the works in *Shifting Perspectives* express empathy and agency. Yolanda Lopez's print celebrates the important role of Chicana women in labor unions, while the documentary photography of Pirkle Jones and Russell Lee reveals economic realities and disparities for Mexican immigrants in the United States. Many of the works have a timeless quality, such as Carrie Mae Weems' plate commemorating every black man who lives to see twenty-one, which is as relevant today as it was when it was made in 1992.

*Shifting Perspectives* also features brand new acquisitions, including prints by local artists Adrianna Adams, Yétundé Olagbaju, and Daniel Valencia, and Guillermo Galindo's graphic score based on the movements of a lost child which are embroidered onto a flag used along the U.S./Mexico border to indicate the location of water tanks for migrants. The recent additions are the result of a newly launched student acquisition project to identify, research, and justify specific artworks that help diversify MCAM's permanent collection.

The exhibition showcases pieces from MCAM's holdings, including works by Adrianna Adams, Kim Anno, The Bruce High Quality Foundation, Guillermo Galindo, Rupert Garcia, the Guerrilla Girls, Mona Hatoum, Pirkle Jones, Betty Kano, Russell Lee, Hung Liu, Yolanda Lopez, Ruth Morgan, Yétundé Olagbaju, Jose Guadalupe Posada, Faith Ringgold, Shahzia Sikander, Daniel Valencia, and Carrie Mae Weems.

*Shifting Perspectives* is curated by Simone Gage, Sage Gaspar, Sydney Pearce, Melika Sebihi, and Taya Wyatt. The exhibition is accompanied by a digital catalogue featuring original scholarship by the students.

### **About the Mills College Art Museum**

Founded in 1925, The Mills College Art Museum is a forum for exploring art and ideas and a laboratory for contemporary art practices. Through innovative exhibitions, programs, and collections, the museum engages and inspires the intellectual and creative life of the Mills community as well as the diverse audiences of the Bay Area and beyond. For more information, visit [mcam.mills.edu](http://mcam.mills.edu).

*MCAM is currently closed to the public. We will reopen by appointment only in early 2021.*

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