



El Colectivo Mujeres en la Música A. C.



Coordinadora Internacional de Mujeres en el Arte, ComuArte

**Women/Culture**

*Notifem...*

March 2, 2021

The Information Agency of the International Coordinator of Women in the Arts

### **Press Release**

El Colectivo de Mujeres en la Música A.C., the Coordinadora Internacional de Mujeres en el Arte, Comuarte and the Spanish Association Murmullo de Sirenas:Arte de Mujeres (Mermaids Whisper, Women's Art), in collaboration with Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes INBA, and the Engineering faculty of the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro (UAQ) invite to our 25th Encuentro Internacional (International Women's Meeting) and 21st Encuentro Iberoamericano (Ibero-American Meeting) of Women in the Arts, which will take place in March and November 2021 in Mexico City and the city of Querétaro, Mexico, under the theme:

A Better World is Possible, the Pandemic as a work of art. Reflecting and living.

"If within the confinement of my soul I could bring light and hope,  
I would not doubt keeping my essence confined, day and night, within your gaze.  
If in confinement I caressed your soul,  
I would not doubt to feed day and night the light of this flame which is in you my hope."  
Carmen Cecilia Piñero Gil

For the first time in this 21st century and for many decades, humankind has faced the global threats to its own survival.

Climate change has awakened awareness and many voices have cried out for a new world order to stop the degradation of the planet, addressing the consequences for humankind. But the measures undertaken have proven to be too small to avert the climate emergency, escalating in natural catastrophe, global warming, thawing of the poles and increased threats to animal species.

Within the dismal scenery, we are witnessing the appearance of the COVID19 Pandemic as one more element of the spiral...

The rapid expansion of the Pandemic, the scale of infected people, and of deceased, the social and economic repercussions in a magnitude unseen before have shaken the very pillars of the political, social, economic and cultural structures world-wide.

The strict confinement for an extensive period, and its consequences individually and collectively, have become overbearing. And we become increasingly aware of the importance of science over the economy, and that of hospitals over soccer stadiums, medical research over research for weapons, cohesiveness and solidarity over individual hedonism; valuing life and our elders over economic benefits and efficiency...

At such times it becomes a must to understand for good that the "others" wellbeing goes hand in hand with everyones' wellness, and that the "other" is not only the human, but also animals, plants, Mother Earth... Because as Enrique Dussel has put it: "To say that Nature is our Mother is not a mere metaphor, but a scientific fact".

COVID-19 has become a revulsive leading us to question the establishment status- quo as to geographic borders, social hierarchy and inequality, cultural icons, work hierarchies, public expenditure priorities, and most sensitive social sectors...

Or is it that COVID-19 has proven to be a scream from Mother Earth reclaiming her space, or "a room of her own" in order to heal herself from the plague humanity has become?  
Is Mother Nature, who has confined us humans to claim her voice back, and reprimand us with this ultimatum to diminish our species' arrogance?

Within the insecurity we are experiencing collectively, it is that women artists wonder about our role in this global crisis and the "new normality" that arises.

This is a time to reflect on women in emergency situations ; our strengths and weaknesses.  
It's time to work with women artists and confinement, our musings, our reflections and contributions from our perspective, our art offerings to society in this situation of forced confinement.

We, the ComuArte women belong to the generation of humans suffering the COVID19 Pandemic and we intend to write this story saying we also belong to the generation conquering the Pandemic and creating a better world, a different world for sure.

The Capitalist patriarchal system is based on inequality, creating unsustainable contradictions, such as wealth in the hands of a minority, making economic power more important than life in it's manifestations.

The COVID19 Pandemic has uncovered the blatant inequality, which if it continues will bring the dawn fall of the human species.

Women artists seek to touch hearts from our hearts even in the midst of inequality and isolation. We intend to move through our vibrant hearts, from these virtual spaces to enhance and transform humanity, choosing life, hoping to make it alive to our 2021 ComuArte Meeting.

Selected works will be presented virtually, "from the present moment and thinking of post-mortem transcendence, recovering our inner joy and zest for life, facing inner and outer real enemies; hanging on to life with wisdom, spirituality, ancestral philosophy, to go beyond loss of human life and to elevate our spirit and corporeal selves." Carmen Cecilia Piñero, ComuArte /Spain

.....

We, Mexican women in the Arts are requesting the official cultural institutions in this country to respond to our demands presented to them since the year 2019, which until now have received no answer from the cultural authorities (Secretaría de Cultura of the federal government).

This 2021 we were not granted the previous economic support in 26 years of history of our Encuentro (Meeting of Women in the Arts).

The Pandemic cannot be an excuse for abandonment.

It is inadmissible the government's intention to ignore our demands for funding, since there is historical debt with women artists and scientists.

In March 2020 women artists became an international observatory in defense of our rights.

And we in ComuArte received many complaints from individual women and women's groups such as Despertador anónimo, Mujeres organizadas from the Music Faculty of UNAM (National University of Mexico), the National Conservatory of Music, and other such groups of women artists.

The plights included a long list of teachers, directors, and power groups going against their human rights and labor rights.

Our mission propels us to present a collective complaint. And we will present the complaints to legal and human rights bodies both national and international such as the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights.

In 2004 we instituted the International Award to Misogyny, given to perpetrators of violence towards women. It went to Lorenzo de Firenze, director of Círculo Masculino. He convened to a meeting and march to dignify men.

In 2021 the Award goes to Juan ex deputeo from PRI Juan Vera Carrisal, promoter Andres Roemer, and Felix Salgado Macedonio, candidate to be governor in Oaxaca, Mexico.

They are accused of spraying with acid a woman saxophone player, sexual abuse, and rape. All serious crimes.

So the perpetrators have a name and face; and it is time to make them stop, say their names out loud and cry out for justice, so they are made responsible by the national and international authorities for justice and human rights.

We call forth all women who have suffered any kind of violence against them to contact us with their case. You are not alone!

Those interested please send your complaint to us: [info@comuarte.org](mailto:info@comuarte.org)

## **Music**

**Dr. Leticia Armijo**

Women in music have resisted the pandemic, and have produced miraculous prodigies, such as the four concerts which we will broadcast on our webpage and Facebook page.

We will release the premiere of the work of 20 women composers from Spain, Australia, El Salvador, United States and Mexico.

Sat. March 6th at six o'clock p.m. Central time, we will feature oboist Katherine Needleman piccolo player Caroline Séguin and pianist Ana Lourdes Rodríguez will present the work of Alejandra Odgers, Diana Syrse and Rosa Ma. Rodríguez.

We would like to highlight our collaboration with Australia this year, via the project MIA Music from Iberoamerica in Australia, headed by the renowned pianist Irma Enriquez, who will play the concert "Resiliencia" joined by violinist Carmen Becerra. They will play the work of Alicia Terzian, Argentina; Miriam Hyde, Peggy Polias and Elena Kats-Chernin, Australia; Maria Baratta, El Salvador; Ángeles López, Spain; Jennifer Hidgon, United States; Mariana Villanueva and Leticia Armijo, Mexico. March 7, six o'clock p.m. central time.

Mon. March 8, six o'clock. Concert of Electroacoustic music. Clarinet, Alejandro Moreno and violin Carmen Becerra. Works by composers Candy Mendoza C., Mayra Juárez, Estephanie Peña, Eunice S. Bazan and Arwen Valdés.

Sun. 14, six o'clock.

Harp: Amalinalli Pichardo, guitar: Laura Chávez, and Orchestra of Guitars Universidad Autónoma Querétaro directed by Efraim Escobar. Works by Maria Luisa Solórzano and Laura Chávez B.

The International Seminar of Gender Studies in Art and Science is the cornerstone of our Encuentro: Sun. March 14, 10 a.m.

With Dra. Carmen Cecilia Piñero, Spain.

Dra. Margarita Tortajada,

Dra. Irma Fuentes, Dra. Hilda Romero and Dra. Cristina Navarrete, Mexico. These three scholars from the Facultad de Ingeniería and Cuerpo académico UAQ.

### **Award and Homage Coatlicue.**

The lack of awards for women artists in Mexico prompted us in ComuArte to create awards inspired in prehispanic feminine deities.

Crafted by Yolanda Gonzalez and Catherine Gilbert. Followers of the traditional Mexican pottery. We have created awards for outstanding women artists of tireless efforts throughout their career and cultural labor, such as the Award Socorro Bastida, dancer.

In 2020 we created the Coatlicue Award given by ComuArte to outstanding women artists. In Music, it was granted to the first woman conductor of the Orchestra graduated in the Mozarteum of Salzburg, the Mexican Isabel Mayagoitia; to Composer Consuelo Velázquez; painter Leonora Carrington; writer Elena Poniatowska; journalist Lydia Cacho, and communicator Carmen Aristegui, among other outstanding women artists.

This year, 2021, the Award and Homage go to cultural promoter Anne Hill.

Due to the pandemic not allowing us to present the Award in Bellas Artes, Mexico City, the ceremony will take place online on Sun, March 14 at 1 p.m.



**Anne Hamilton Hill Kinsella**

**(Anne Hill de Mayagoitia)**

**Anne Hamilton Hill Kinsella (Anne Hill de Mayagoitia)** Born in the United States. Translator and linguist, whose work has been the Spanish-English translation of books, legal documents, tourism, art, music and gastronomy. She's also advisor in linguistics, style and drafting, as well as editing.

She is translator and interpreter in English, French and Italian, certified by the American Translators Association for English- Spanish- English translations.

She graduated *summa cum laude* in Neolatin tongues, at Rice University, Houston, Texas. And at Madrid University, Spain, she received a diploma in Hispanic Studies.

In the legal translations area she has a sound academic formation in corporate law, finances and international business at Universidad Panamericana.

Ann is the creator and copy right owner of the *Compendio del Medio Artístico* a renowned yearly publication (1988-2000) comprising a directory of the cultural world in Mexico. She produced the compendium in all the stages from design to sales.

Among the publications in which she was editor we find:

Traces in History, Spanish Art in Mexico, (2017); Great Masters of Ibero-American Folk Art (2014); Roger von Gunten, pintura y gráfica (2012); José Guadalupe Posada a 100 años de su partida (2012); Antonio López Sáenz, Pintura, escultura, dibujo (2011); Frida's Frida (2007).

She is now about to publish a book on the Pacific Basin (2021).

Other books she has edited:

Great Masters of Mexican Folk Art (2019).

America, Land of Horsemen from Charros to Gauchos (2018)

Francisco Toledo: Works 1957-1970. (2016, 2017)

Javier Marín: Terra, Material as Idea (2015)

Mexican Silver Design: Art and Craftsmanship, 1880-2015 (2015)

Yvonne Domenge, Interconnections (2015)

Great Masters of Ibero-American Folk Art (2014)

Architecture in Mexico 1900-2010 The Construction of Modernity (2013)

Iberoamerica 1810-1824. Some Reflections (2010)

Life and Design in Mexico, 20th Century (2010)

Painting of the Kingdoms of Spain, shared identities. Territories of the Spanish Monarchy 16th-18th Centuries (2008-09)

Ibero-American Architects of the 21st Century (2006)

Images of the Natives in the Art of New Spain (2005)

The Painting Collection of the Banco Nacional de México, 19th Century Catalogue (2004)

Liberalism and Modernity: 1876-1917 (2003)

The Painting Collection of the Banco Nacional de México, twentieth century Catalogue (2002)

Lastly, she corrected style in English of the books:

Talk less. Do more. Memoirs of Federico Baur (2019)

Guía del Museo del Palacio de Bellas Artes (2018)

Vamos a Trabajar/ Let's Work! (2018)

Animal Talk (2015)

Carnaval de Mazatlán (2015)  
Durango 450 (2014)  
Mi familia calaca/My Skeleton Family (2013)

### **Literature. Mtra. Cecilia Figueroa**

A Better World is Possible.

March 14 th, 2020, was the day in which ComuArte was awarding the Coatlicue Award, and the last day we got together physically. A few days later the government announced the national Jornada of sane distance. And to the best of our ability we took shelter at home and watched in awe as the pandemic grew.

Days went by and our dream of going back to normality faded as the number of victims of the virus increased each day in Mexico and the whole world.

So, in the midst of the unrest, uncertainty, grief and sadness, our group of women artists ComuArte, launched the Announcement to convene: "A better world is possible", inviting women artists to create with the understanding that it is necessary and urgent to build a better world.

We in Literature selected 24 pieces of work for the Anthology "A better world is possible".

On these texts, the women writers explore the value of human life as it is conditioned to non repetition.

These poems and narratives reflect the worries, uncertainty, and above all the longing of the writers to conquer the pandemic and avert death.

The writers of the Anthology are:

Leticia Armijo, Cecilia Figueroa, Noemí Luna, Elvira Hernández, Asmara Pereyra, Ma. Elena Solórzano, Norma Pérez, Jacqueline Padilla, Angélica Santa Olaya, Laura Chávez, María Teresa Juárez, Judith Arreola, Hittai López, Josefina Hernández, Ana Marisol Reséndiz, Verónica Terrones, Lorena Basave, Cynthia Burgos, Rocío D.Ledezma, Alejandra Sáenz, Estela Guerra, Vicenta Tamayo, Judith Ruiz y Susana Rosado.

This Anthology will be presented online March 12, at six o'clock in our ComuArte Internacional website, and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=comuarte%20internacional>

### **Visual Arts**

### **Mtra. Irma Velarde**

In this 25th International Meeting (Encuentro) and 21st Iberoamerican Encuentro of Women in the Arts, Mexico 2021, with the theme "A better world is possible. The pandemic as work of art. Reflecting and living" we will be presenting 40 women plastic artists. Their work shows a rich variety of formats and techniques such as bronze sculpture, pottery; traditional and innovative techniques for painting, tapestry, photography and engraving.

Their work portrays the crisis the pandemic and the ensuing confinement has brought, individually and collectively, portraying a world in profound change.

The women artists participating are from Mexico, Brasil, Chile, Cuba, Spain and Poland.

Among them, Aideé de León, Alejandra Falcón, Alejandrina Hernández, Ana Julia Aguado, Blanca Charolet, Claudia Méndez, Diana Medina, Dolores González, Draya Madu, Elia del C Morales, Erika Morarte, Fernanda Quiñones, Gabriela Abud, Gabriela Catalán, Irma Velarde, Johana Herrera, Judith Ruiz, Leonor Misrrie, Lourdes Berbeyer, Luz María Pizá, Luz María Solloa, María Guadalupe Pimentel, Martha Ortiz, Patricia Luengas, Patricia Meza, Rita Sánchez, Rosalba Bustamante, Rosario Camus, Rossana Cervantes, Sandra Díaz, Susana Mendoza, Susana Rosado, Verónica Reyes (México), María Elena Leal L. (Brasil), Jocelyne Rodríguez (Chile), Guadalupe Urrutia (Cuba), Mercedes Bautista (España) e Isabela Rostokwska (Polonia).

The exhibits will be virtual for the time being, and when it becomes possible to exhibit physically, the works will be presented at Palacio de Bellas Artes, Museo de la Ciudad de México, Teatro de la Danza Guillermina Bravo and Centro de Arte Bernardo Quintana, in the city of Querétaro.

## Dance

**Dra. Margarita Tortajada**

In 2021 contemporary dance will feature dance performances presented at Teatro de la Danza Guillermina Bravo INBA, November 2020, which shall be broadcasted March 4, 2021 at 8pm.

The contempo dance company Muhuvidanza (World, Movement, Humanity, Life and Dance) under the director Rogelio Landa will present Transmutación, Breves instantes de un bailarín and Flower of thousand petals. The first two are solos of Rogelio Landa. Transmutación features music by Gift by David, Euproducciones Pop and Emocional Background. While Breves instantes de un bailarín features music by The Unforgiven-Apocalyptica, The Ninth Gate-Vocalise.

The Flower of a Thousand Petals features music by Leticia Armijo, and choreographed by Evangelina Villalón. Created in 2006 as homage to the Spanish dancer and researcher Estrella Casero. In 2009 it received an award by the Spanish Ministry of Culture and Education and was presented at the Museo de Arte Reina Sofía. This time it will feature dancers Rogelio Landa and Lucien Carvajal.

Also presented will be Testimonio de sangre y fuego composed by Silvia Unzueta who previously participated with Women and Dance as choreographer, and in 2019 received the Award Premio Coatlicue.

The music is by Giovanni Sollima, Angus & Malcom Young and Queen. The interpreter is Elisa Rodríguez. Design of lights by Sebastian Solórzano, music edition by Rocío Gutierrez.

From León Guanajuato, México, we will feature the contempo dance company Vaivén Cuerpos en Escena, collectively directed. They will perform Día Cero in collaboration with Fernanda Martínez and various composers: Allegro: Emmit Fenn, the Untold, Succession Studios, Day One, solo.

Mujeres en el Arte, and specially Mujeres en la Danza thank authorities of the Coordinación Nacional de Danza, INBAL; the employees of the Teatro de la Danza and the dancers for their participation. Their support allows for the celebration of this International Women's Day.

.....

El Colectivo de Mujeres en la Música and its subsidiary ComuArte were created in Mexico in 1994. Our purpose was to disseminate the artistic work of women in yearly meetings in March to commemorate International Women's Day and in November, the Non Violence towards Girls and Women Day, in order to create the most important platform for women artists in Latin America.

Throughout these years we have gained access to important forums in Mexico, Spain, Cuba and other countries.

Some of these forums are the Palacio de Bellas Artes and Centro Nacional para las Artes in Mexico, in Spain the Palacio de Linares, Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Centro Cultural Conde Duque, Madrid, Teatro Municipal de Agüimes, Gran Canaria; in Cuba, Teatro Amadeo Roldán and Instituto Superior de Arte. And in the United States, the University of San Francisco.

Renowned artistic groups have joined in our endeavor, such as the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional, and the Orquesta del Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Cuarteto Carlos Chávez, Mexico. In Cuba, the Orquesta Sinfónica.

Also some of the main interpreters from Bellas Artes in Mexico, among many others in these countries.

Some of our achievements are these:

The recording of the radio series Murmullo de Sirenas, a space to feel and understand musical works of women, in collaboration with Radio Educación, Mexico. We recorded 36 radio programs,

registering the unpublished works of many women composers, interpreters, women orchestra directors and musicologists previously unknown.

The creation of a Centro de Investigación, Documentación e Información ( Center for research, documentation and information) in Mexico.

The gathering of works by women creators from Cuba, Spain, Mexico and other countries and dissemination of these works via the international gatherings (Encuentros).

Recording, edition and diffusion of the works, with the collaboration of Canadian ARLA Music Publishing Company, Punto F Ediciones Musicales, and IRUNE Producciones musicales.

Tributes to outstanding women artists, such as Mexican Isabel Mayagoitia, first woman orchestra director in the world, who graduated at the Salzburg Mozarteum; the Spanish dancer Estrella Casero, creator of the dance studies at the Universidad de Alcalá; Mariana Yampolsky, American photographer residing in Mexico and who has centered her work on Mexican indigenous culture; Elena Poniatowska, relevant Mexican writer and journalist, who has contributed important works towards justice and social peace in Mexico.

Presentation of a Request Sheet to the Cámara de Diputados and Women's Parliament in Mexico 2000, in order to achieve changes and better the living conditions of women artists. This gave origin to the current Proyecto de Declaración de los Derechos Humanos de las Mujeres en el Arte, presented at UNESCO (UNO) and OEA.

This has led to covenants for national and international cooperation to make visible women's artistic works, such as:

International Seminars of Gender Studies in the Arts in collaboration with UNAM (Mexico) and Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, among others.

Covenant of collaboration between the Mexican and the Spanish governments for the Encuentros Iberoamericanos de Mujeres en el Arte; covenant between ComuArte and Instituto Canario de la Mujer (Spain) for the 9th Encuentro Internacional de Mujeres en el Arte, Canary Islands 2005;

Covenant between ComuArte and Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes for the annual meetings (Encuentros Internacionales) of Women in the Arts.

Creation of the Editorial Internacional ComuArte.

Revista Notas de Sirena.

Creation of Record label Murmullo de Sirenas.

First Sociedad Filarmónica de Mujeres en la Música "Isabel Mayagoitia", led by Consuelo Velázquez.

Creation of ComuArte Spain, Cuba, United States and Chile.

Creation of the Choir Coro de Mujeres de los Pueblos Indígenas de México: Yolotli.

The Coordinadora Internacional de Mujeres en el Arte is a group of renowned and tireless women artists, researchers and cultural managers striving to achieve the recognition of women's art, making it visible, and honoring the artistic endeavors of women who have dedicated their lives to contribute to universal culture.

### **Production team:**

Dra. Leticia Armijo, general director.

Mtra. Socorro Bastida+ Dance.

Dra. Margarita Tortajada, Dance.

Mtra. Cecilia Figueroa, Literature.

Mtra. Irma Velarde, Visual Arts.

Mercedes Estéves, ComuArte Cuba.

Dra. Carmen Cecilia Piñero, ComuArte Spain and President of Murmullo de Sirenas A.C.

José Suárez 113-2  
Col. San Ángel, Querétaro, México.  
e-mail: [info@comuarte.org](mailto:info@comuarte.org)

Tel: (01442) 2415326  
Móvil: (04455) 2797.9728  
site: <http://www.comuarte.org>