

Mel Casas

EDUCATION

- 1958 Master of Fine Arts, University of the Americas, Mexico City, Mexico
- 1956 Bachelor of Arts, Texas Western College, El Paso, TX

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018-19 *Mel Casas: Human*, The McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, TX
- 2017 *Mel Casas: Iconic Reality*, Ruiz-Healy Art, San Antonio, TX (catalogue)
- 2015 *Getting the Big Picture: Mel Casas and the Politics of the 1960s and 1970s*, Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, San Antonio, TX; curator: Ruben C. Cordova
- Sex and Cinema with Mel Casas, 1965-1968*, Flight Gallery, San Antonio, TX; curator: Ruben C. Cordova
- Mel Casas: The Southwestern Cliches, 1982-1989*, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, San Antonio, TX; curator: Ruben Cordova
- Mel Casas: Art about Art, 1975-1981*, San Antonio Public Library Central Library, San Antonio, TX
- 2014 *Mel Casas: Artist as Cultural Adjuster*, San Antonio College Visual Arts Center Gallery, San Antonio, TX (book)
- 2002 *Mel Casas: Scopophilia—Enjoying Looking*, Joan Groana Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- 1999 *Mel Casas Exhibition*, Georgia Southwestern, Department of Fine Arts, Americus, GA
- 1995 *I Am Talking To You*, Carrington/Gallagher Ltd., San Antonio, TX
- 1993 *A Focus on Mel Casas: One Man Show*, UTSA Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- 1989 *Mel Casas, 25 Year Retrospective*, Instituto Cultural Mexicano and the Arte Moderno Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- One Man Show*, Beverly Gordon Gallery, Dallas, TX
- 1988 *S.W. Turf*, Arte Moderno Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- Mel Casas*, Laguna Gloria Museum, Austin, TX
- 1984 *Southwest Icons*, Koehler Cultural Center, San Antonio College, San Antonio, TX
- 1976 *Mel Casas: Humanscapes*, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX (catalogue)
- 1973 Boehm Gallery, Palomar College, San Marcos, CA
- 1968 Mexican Art Gallery, Mexican Consulate, San Antonio, TX
- 1967 Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
- Texas Lutheran College, Seguin, TX
- 1963 Mexican Art Gallery, Mexican Consulate, San Antonio, TX
- 1961 YWCA, El Paso, TX

1958 Galeria Genova, Mexico City, Mexico

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Artists Respond: American Art and the Vietnam War, 1965-1975*, Smithsonian American Art Museum and Renwick Gallery, Washington, D.C
Men of Steel, Women of Wonder, The San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX
Men of Steel, Women of Wonder, Crystal Bridges, Bentonville, AR
Day of the Dead, Centro de Artes Gallery, San Antonio, TX; curator: Dr. Ruben Cordova
- 2018-2019 *Pop América*, organized by McNay Art Museum and the Nasher Museum. Traveling to the Block Museum at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL; curator: Esther Gabara (book)
- 2018 *Los Tejanos: Chicano Art from the collection of Cheech Marin*, Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX
American History Does Not Begin with the White Man: Indigenous Themes in the Work of Mel Casas, Bihl Haus Arts, San Antonio, TX
The Other Side of the Alamo: Art Against the Myth, The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, San Antonio, TX
- 2017-18 *How to Read El Pato Pascual: Disney's Latin America and Latin America's Disney*, as part of *Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA*, founded by the Getty Foundation, MAK Center for Art and Architecture, West Hollywood, CA; curators: Jesse Lerner, Ruben Ortiz-Torres
- 2017 *Before the 45th | Action/Reaction in Chicano and Latino Art*, organized by the AltaMed Art Collection, Los Angeles, presented in partnership with the Mexican Cultural Institute of the Embassy of Mexico in Washington, D.C.; Mexican Cultural Institute; curator: Julian Bermudez
- 2014 *Contemporary Latino Art: El Corazón de San Antonio*, Texas A&M, San Antonio, TX; curators: Oscar Palacios, Alex Rubio, Rosario Torres-Raines, Ph. D. , Kathy Vargas, Alicia Viera, Pat Villeneuve, Ph. D.
- 2013-14 *Our America: The Latino Presence in American Art*, Organized by the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C. (book). Traveling to Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University, Miami, Florida; Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California; Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, Utah; Arkansas Art Center, Little Rock, Arkansas; Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, Delaware; Allentown Art Museum, Allentown, Pennsylvania; Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida; and Hunter Museum of American Art, Chattanooga, Tennessee; curator: Carmen E. Ramos (book)
- 2004 *Fronteras*, ArtCar Museum, Houston, TX; Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, IN; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, CA; Weisman Museum of Art, Minneapolis, MN
- 2003 *Pop Installation*, McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, TX

- 2002 Smithsonian Institution, Arts & Industries Building, Washington, D.C.
El Grupo Tejano, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN
- 2001 *Chicano Visions: American Painters on the Verge*, Traveling to San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, Texas, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico, El Paso Museum of Art, Texas, Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, Museum of Contemporary Art- La Jolla, California, Museum of Contemporary Art- San Diego, California, Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul, Minnesota, O’Kane Gallery, Houston, Texas, Saint Louis Science Center, Saint Louis, Missouri, de Young Museum, San Francisco, California, Museum of Fine Art Fort Lauderdale; curator: René Yáñez (catalogue)
- 1995 *Latinos Tejanos*, Guadalupe Visual Arts Annex, San Antonio, TX
Made in Texas, Parchman Stremmel Gallery, San Antonio, TX
Gardens & Landscapes, Carrington/Gallagher Gallery, San Antonio, TX
Latino Tejanos, Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, San Antonio, TX
Labors of Love, Parchman Stremmel Gallery, San Antonio, TX
State Of The State: Contemporary Art In Texas, San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX
Celebrating Latino Artists 1995, Tobin Richter Estate, San Antonio, TX
Art Journeys, Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX
Men of Art Guild, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
Blue Star, Blue Balls & Blue Art, Blue Star Complex, San Antonio, TX
- 1994 Scottsdale Center for the Arts, Scottsdale, AZ
 Neuberger Museum, State University, New York City, NY
 San José Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
- 1993 Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York City, NY
 San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX
 Field Museum of Art
Chicano Social Revolution, Centro Cultural Aztlan, San Antonio, TX
Then & Now: Chicano Art After CARA II, Jansen-Perez Gallery, San Antonio, TX
La Frontera/The Border, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA
 Centro Cultural, Tijuana, Mexico
 Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA
- 1992 Tucson Museum of Art
 The National Museum of American Art, Washington D.C.
 El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX
- 1991 *Tejanos*, University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX



RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

- 3 Artists*, Jansen-Perez Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- 1990-93 *Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation, 1965-1985*, Traveling to: Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, The San Antonio Museum of Art, El Paso Museum of Art, Mexico City Modern Art Museum, Denver Art Museum, Albuquerque Museum of Art, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Fresno Art Museum, Tucson Museum of Art, National Museum of American Art, Wright Art Gallery at UCLA, Museo de America, Spain; Fresno Art Museum, California (book)
- 1990 *15 Pintores y 3 Escultores Tejanos*, Museo de Arte Alvar y Carmen T. Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico
Center for the Arts, Vero Beach, FL
Casas and Martinez, Jansen-Perez Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- 1989 *The Latin American Spirit: Art and Artists in the United States, 1920-1970*, The Bronx Museum of Art, NY; El Paso Museum of Art, TX; San Diego Museum of Art, CA; Instituto de Cultura Puertorriquena, San Juan, Puerto Rico
Celebracion Hispana, Didactic Gallery, Plano, TX; curator: June Mattingly
Hispanic Art in The United States, The Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
- 1983 *Showdown: Perspectives on the Southwest*, Alternate Center for International Arts Inc, New York City, NY
- 1979 *San Antonio College Faculty Exhibition*, Koehler Cultural Center, San Antonio College, San Antonio, TX
- 1978 *Fire*, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX; Museum of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM; El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX; Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY
DaleGas-Chicano Art of Texas, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX
A Clean Well Lighted Place, Austin, TX
- 1977 *Ancient Roots New Vision*, Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, AZ
National Collection of Fine Arts & Fondo del Sol Spanish American Media Center, Washington D.C.
- 1975 *Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Art*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Texas Tough Show, Witte Memorial Museum, San Antonio, TX
- 1974 *12 Texas Artists*, Contemporary Art Museum, Houston, TX
- 1973 *Mexican American Art Symposium*, Laurie Auditorium, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
- 1972 The Museum, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
- 1971 *Texas Paintings and Sculptures: 20th Century*, Pollock Galleries, Owens Art Center, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX; San Antonio Museum Association, Witte Confluence Museum, Hemisfair Plaza, San Antonio, TX; University Art Museum, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX; Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, TX; Louisiana Gallery, Houston, TX



RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

- A Blending of Culture - A Blending of Time*, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX
- 1970 *Sweet South Texas Funk*, St. Edward's University, Austin, TX
- 1967 *Now and Beyond*, Witte Museum, San Antonio, TX
- 1966 *Contemporary Artists' Group Show*, A.C. Gallery, Monterrey, México; Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, TX; Texas College of Arts and Industries, Kingsville, TX Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, TX
- Paintings by Outstanding Southwestern Artists*, Witte Museum, San Antonio, TX
- Bright Shawl Invitational*, San Antonio, TX
- Men of Art Guild*, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
- Contemporary Artists' Guild*, San Antonio, TX
- South Plains College*, Levellan, Texas, Arlington, TX
- Memorial Library*, Port Arthur, TX
- Today's Printing Exhibition*, P.I.C. Gallery, Mexico City, Mexico
- Bright Shawl Invitational*, San Antonio, TX
- 15th Exhibition of Southwestern Prints and Drawings*, Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, Dallas, TX
- 35th Annual Local Artists' Exhibition*, Witte Memorial Museum, San Antonio, TX
- Sixth Dixie Annual Exhibition*, Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts
- Louisiana State Art Commission, Baton Rouge, LA
- 9th Annual Sun Carnival Exhibition*, El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX
- Watercolor Society 16th Annual Exhibition*, Witte Memorial Museum, San Antonio, TX; Houston Baptist College, Houston, TX; St. Edward's University, Austin, TX; Arts and Crafts Center, Ft. Still, OK
- Arts and Industries College, Kingsville, TX; McAllen State Bank, McAllen, TX; Sam Houston State Teachers College, Huntsville, TX; Lubbock Art Association, Lubbock, TX; Baylor University, Waco, TX; Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, TX
- 1964 Two-Twenty Two Gallery, El Paso, TX
- Men of Art Guild*, San Antonio, TX
- San Antonio Public Library, San Antonio, TX
- S.A.A. Building, San Antonio, TX
- 34th Annual Local Artist Exhibition*, Witte Museum, San Antonio, TX
- Texas Watercolor Society 15th Annual Exhibitions*, Witte Museum, San Antonio, TX
- Wichita Falls Art Association, Wichita Falls, TX
- Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
- Lubbock Art Association, Garden Art Center, Lubbock, TX
- Texas A&M University, Kingsville, TX
- Memorial Library, Port Arthur



RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

- Beaumont Art Center, Beaumont, TX
San Angelo College, San Angelo, TX
Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, TX
Laguna Gloria Museum, Austin, TX
- 1963 Centennial Art Museum, Beaumont, TX
Men of Art Guild, San Antonio, TX
7th Annual Sun Carnival Exhibition, El Paso, TX
Twenty-Fourth Annual Texas Painting and Sculpture Exhibition, Witte Museum, San Antonio, TX
Corpus Christi Art Foundation, Centennial Art Museum
Beaumont Art Museum, Beaumont, TX
Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, Dallas, TX
33rd Annual Local Artists' Exhibition, Witte Museum, San Antonio, TX
- 1962 Mexican Art Gallery, Mexican Consulate, San Antonio, TX
- 1960 El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX
Chelmont, El Paso, TX
Brockton Art Association, 3rd Annual Show, Brockton, MA
- 1959 Maude Sullivan Gallery, EL Paso, TX
- 1957 Saloncito Siete, Mexico City College, Mexico City, Mexico

AWARDS

- 1989 Barbara Jordan Award, Texas Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons, San Antonio, TX
- 1988 Alamo Community College District, 25 year Service Award
- 1986 Seventh Annual Tribute to the Chicano Arts, Outstanding Service Award, Our Lady of the Lake College,
San Antonio, TX
- 1984 Statue of Victory, World Culture Prize for 1984 in Letters, Arts, and Sciences
- 1979 Piper Professor Candidate
- 1977 Piper Professor Candidate
- 1976 Certificate of Appreciation for Distinguished Service in the Field of Art
- 1966 36th Annual Exhibition of San Antonio Art League, Witte Memorial Museum
- 1964 9th Annual Sun Carnival Exhibition, El Paso Art Museum
- 1956 National Society of Arts and Letters
- 1959 6th Annual Sun Carnival Exhibition, El Paso Art Museum, Purchase Prize
- 1958 Mexico City College Saloncito, 7th Exhibition



RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

LECTURES

- 1999 A Series of Lectures, Georgia Southwestern, Department of Fine Arts, Americus Georgia
1990 College of the Mainland, Galveston, TX
1989 Chicano Art and the Museum, El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX
1976 Humanities on the Border, U.T. EL Paso, El Paso, TX
Metropolitan State College, Denver, CO
1973 Trinity University, San Antonio, TX

COLLECTIONS

- Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.
San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, TX
AT&T, San Antonio, TX

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Aquino, Marco. "Mel Casas Retrospective to open at the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center." *Rivard Report*, June 3, 2015.
- Beardsley, John, ed. *Hispanic Art in the United States*. Cross River Press, Ltd., 1987.
- Cancel, Luis R., Marimar Benitez, and Jacinto Quirarte. *The Latin American spirit: art and artists in the United States, 1920-1970*. New York: Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1990.
- Carlozzi, Annette. *50 Texas Artists: A Critical Selection of Painters and Sculptors*, Chronicle Books, 1986.
- Cockcroft, Eva Sperling. "From Barrio to Mainstream: The Panorama of Latino Art." In Kanellos, Nicolas; Esteva-Fabregat, Claudio (eds.). *Handbook of Hispanic Cultures in the United States: Literature and Art*. Houston, Texas: Arte Publico Press, 1993.
- Cordova, Ruben. "The Cinematic Genesis of the Mel Casas Humanscape, 1965 – 1967." *Aztlan: A Journal of Chicano Studies*. 36 (2011): 51- 87.
- . *Con Safo: The Chicano Art Group and the Politics of South Texas*. Los Angeles: UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center Press, 2009.



RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

Courtney, James. "McNay Hosting Gallery Talk on Legacy of Late San Antonio Artist Mel Casas." *San Antonio Current*, September 25, 2018.

---. *CON SAFO: The Chicano Art Group and the Politics of South Texas*. Los Angeles: UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center Press, 2009.

---. CON SAFO: San Antonio's Chicano Artists Group and Its Legacy. *Art Lies* 25 (Winter 1999-2000): 18- 21.

Davalos, Karen Mary. *Exhibiting Mestizaje: Mexican (American) Museums in the Diaspora*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press (15 November 2002)

Fauerso, Neil. "Mel Casas: 'Iconic Reality' at Ruiz-Healy Art." *Glasstire*, November 6, 2017

Foner, Philip S. and Reinhard Schultz. *Das Andere Amerika: Geschichte, Kunst und Kultur der Amerikanischen Arbeiterbewegung*. Elefant Press, 1983.

Frank, Nicholas. "Art With an Accent: Expanded Visions of 'America' in Several San Antonio Exhibitions". *Rivard Report*, October 21, 2018.

Goddard, Dan. "Late Artist Mel Casas Remembered in 'Humanscapes' Series." *San Antonio Current*, August 19, 2015.

Goetzmann, William H. *The West of the Imagination*. University of Oklahoma Press, 2009.

Gonzalez, Rita, Howard N. Fox, and Chon A. Noriega. *Phantom sightings: art after the Chicano movement*. Los Angeles: University of California, 2008.

Hickey, David. "Mel Casas: Border Lord." *Artspace: Southwestern Contemporary Arts* (1988) Quarterly 12, no. 4: 28–31.

Jackson, Carlos Francisco. *Chicana and Chicano Art: Protest Arte*. Tucson: Arizona University Press, 2009.

---. "Melasio (Mel) Casas: The Permeable and Porous Borderlands" in *Mel Casas: Iconic Reality*. San Antonio: Ruiz-Healy Art, 2017.

- Kanellos, Nicolás, Claudio Esteva, and Francisco A. Lomelí. *Handbook of Hispanic cultures in the United States*. Houston: Artepúblico Press, 1993.
- Kelker, Nancy. *Mel Casas: Artist as Cultural Adjuster*. Lascassas: High Ship Press, 2014.
- Keller, Gary D. *Contemporary Chicana and Chicano art: artists, works, culture, and education*. Tempe: Bilingual Press/Editorial Bilingue, 2002.
- Kupferschmid, Gene S. *Al tanto: catorce cuentos contemporáneos*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1991.
- Lewis, Ansley. “Chicano arts pioneer Casas flouts tradition.” *The Ranger*, February 21, 2014.
- Lopez, Mia. “In San Antonio, a Chicano Painter Who Paired Pop Art with Pointed Politics.” *Hyperallergic*, 2015.
- Marin, Cheech. *Chicano Vision: American Painters on the Verge*. Bulinch, 2002.
- Otinowski, Steven. *Latinos in the Arts*. New York: Facts On File, 2007.
- Pogrebin, Robin. “Museums Turn Their Focus to U.S. Artists of Latin Descent”. *The New York Times*, April 24, 2018.
- Quirarte, Jacinto. *Mexican American Artists*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1973.
- Ramos, Carmen. “Remembering Mel Casas.” *Smithsonian American Art Museum* (blog), January 7, 2015.
- Romo, Ricardo. “The Pop Art of Mel Casas.” *La Prensa Texas*, October 21, 2018.
- Saldana, Hector. “Gone, But Not Forgotten.” *San Antonio Express-News*, December 26, 2014.
- Salazar, Veronica. *Dedication Rewarded: Prominent Mexican-Americans*. Mexican American Cultural Press, 1976.
- Silva, Elda. “Casas exhibit too big for one gallery.” *San Antonio Express-News*, June 11, 2015.



RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

---. "Mel Casas, American Artist." My San Antonio, February 26, 2014.

Andrews, Scott. "Con Safo Artists Bring El Movimiento to Canvas." *San Antonio Current*, September 13, 2011.

Stavans, Ilan, and Harold Augenbraum. *Encyclopedia Latina: history, culture, and society in the United States*. Danbury: Grolier Academic Reference, 2005.

Yorba, Jonathan. *Arte latino: treasures from the Smithsonian American Art Museum*. New York: Watson-Guption Publications, 2001.

Zech, Brandon. "Learn About the Art of Mel Casas in San Antonio." *Glasstire*, September 24, 2018.