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Chicana/o/x Artists Recapture and Reconstitute Concepts of Nature at The Doyle Starting Sept. 26



*Jackie Castillo, Turning No°2, 2022,
Laser print, transfer medium, reclaimed
brick*

From the urban center to farms, deserts and forests, ***For some memory or some land*** re-builds nature through installations, photographs, paintings, and sculpture, on display at Orange Coast College's Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion from September 26 until December 1. The group exhibition features artists who recapture images of nature, sometimes overgrown and freeing; otherwise refashioned from urban decay. Land is not lost within city limits; nor is the absence of people felt beyond its walls.

The eight artists in the exhibition include Jackie Castillo, Juan Gomez, Álvaro D. Márquez, Narsiso Martinez, Aydinaneth Ortiz, Jynx Prado, Gloria Gem Sánchez, and Christopher Anthony Velasco, and was curated by Dakota Noot, who is also OCC faculty in the art department. Castillo and Gomez are OCC alumni.

“The artists in ***For some memory or some land*** at OCC's Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion utilize myth-building, pushing natural elements as gateways into the fantastical, in which nature can be regrown and renewed,” says Noot, guest curator for the exhibition.

Examples of works in the show include Jackie Castillo's use of surface, material, and ruins, creating installations to examine how an internalized loss of identity may render the self as unreal and estranged, as in *Turning No°2, 2022*, utilizing transferred laser prints on reclaimed bricks.

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Narsiso Martinez, Super Fresh, 2020, Ink, gouache, charcoal, and collage on produce cardboard boxes, courtesy of the artist and Charlie James Gallery

Narsiso Martinez's drawings and mixed-media installations include multi-figure compositions set amidst agricultural landscapes. Drawn from his own experience as a farmworker, Martinez's work focuses on the people performing the labors necessary to fill produce sections and restaurant kitchens around the country. Martinez's portraits of farmworkers are painted, drawn, and expressed in sculpture on discarded produce boxes collected from grocery stores.

Preview reception: Thursday, Sept. 29, 5–7 p.m.; Opening reception: Saturday, Oct. 1, 2–4 p.m. including curator-led exhibition tour, 2–3 p.m. Additional curator-led tour by Dakota Noot: Thursday, Oct. 13, 12:15-1 p.m. Admission to all events is free. Presently, masks are not mandated but are strongly recommended for indoor events on campus. **Please check the [gallery website](#) for any change in schedule due to evolving COVID-19 restrictions.**

Concurrent exhibitions at The Doyle in Fall 2022 includes “**Spirit of the Land: Artists Honor Avi Kwa Ame,**” a group exhibition of a group exhibition of artists honoring the plants, animals, geology, history, and culture of the Avi Kwa Ame landscape in southern Nevada, open from Sept. 26 until Dec.1.

The Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavilion at Orange Coast College focuses on contemporary visual culture and creates dynamic programming that inspires interaction and dialogue between artists, students, scholars, and local and international communities.

Admission is free for all exhibitions. Gallery hours, Fall 2022: Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. until 5 p.m., and First Saturdays, 12-4 p.m. The gallery is closed on Fridays and school holidays. The Doyle is located next to OCC's [Parking Lot D](#), off Merrimac Way, building 180, between Starbucks and the Art Center classrooms. For additional information, call (714) 432-5738, or visit [The Doyle website](#).

Orange Coast College, founded in 1947, is one of the nation's top transfer schools. With a student population of 25,000, OCC provides exemplary programs leading to Associate degrees and 130 career programs. The college's 164-acre campus is located in the heart of Costa Mesa.