

ROOT DIVISION PRESENTS:
Ritual of Myth Making: Reclaim
Curated by Katherin Canton & Mariana Moscoso



Image info: Alvaro Tzaj Yotz, *Ixkan*, 2022

Exhibition Dates: February 10 – March 20, 2023
Gallery Hours: Wednesday–Saturday 2–6 pm
Root Division 1131 Mission Street, San Francisco

2nd Saturday Reception:
February 11, 2023 | 6–8 pm

Root Division presents [Ritual of Myth Making: Reclaim](#), curated by Katherin Canton & Mariana Moscoso.

Ritual of Mythmaking: Reclaim is an invitation to participate in ceremony. The exhibition will take viewers on a journey through time and space, exploring multiple Indigenous pasts, presents, and futures, resulting in a collective cycle of healing that embraces beauty, death, release, and abundance.

Myth making and ritual are central to Indigenous cosmology. These practices expand across time and space from Turtle Island to Abya Yala (the Western Hemisphere), becoming tools for collective liberation that (re)imagine and (re)create the world we live in. Through myth making, narratives are created and shifted that change self, community, and culture.

The artworks featured and co-created with community members are one of the many ways Indigenous Past (Indigenous Traditions) and Future (Indigenous Futurism) are merged, highlighting the hybrid forms of existing Indigenous people, both locally in California and across the world.

The journey begins with the detailed ancestral weavings of **Rusby Marisol Tum Xinico (Maya Kaqchikel)** and the bold graphic prints of **Sean Guerra (Chicanx)**. Next, viewers will pass

through the fertile depths of the earth as they experience the film *Chaac and Yum*, a reimagined contemporary romantic narrative of Chaac, the Mayan deity of Rain, and Yum, the Mayan deity of corn, by **Xav S-F and Daniel Arizmendi/Snowflake Calvert (Tzeltal, Tzotzil, Yaqui)**. Finally, viewers will make their way through the present, through the experience of death with the works of **Tz'utu Kan (Maya Tz'utujil)** and **Polaris Castillo (Nahua/Mexikah)**, releasing colonialism and systemic white supremacy and transmuting the pain through ancestral practices, finding the way in the future. The future is illuminated by **Alvaro Tzaj Yotz's (Maya Tz'utujil)** vivid painting *Ixkan*, and world building installations by **Shreya Shankar**. Looking to the colors, textures, faces, and sounds that indigenous relatives imagined helps to find the path to collective liberation. *Ritual of Myth Making: Reclaim* centers healing, creates expansiveness, and offers visions of the future for Indigenous peoples.

EXHIBITING ARTISTS

Polaris Castillo

Sonia Conguache Rancho

Sean Guerra

Tz'utu Kan

Rusby Marisol Tum Xinico

Hoi-Fei Mok

Xav S-F and Daniel Arizmendi/Snowflake Calvert

Xicha Sagrada

Shreya Shankar

Alvaro Tzaj Yotz

EVENTS:

Community Opening Ceremony: (2 Aq'ab'al) Friday, February 10, 2023 | 4–6 pm

Second Saturday Reception: (3 K'at) Saturday, February 11, 2023 | 6–8 pm

Community Closing Reception: (8 Tz'ikin) Tuesday, March 14, 2023 | 4–6 pm

ABOUT ROOT DIVISION

Root Division is a visual arts non-profit in San Francisco that connects creativity and community through a dynamic ecosystem of arts education, exhibitions, and studios. Root Division's mission is to empower artists, foster community service, inspire youth, and enrich the Bay Area through engagement in the visual arts. The organization is a launching pad for artists, a stepping-stone for educators and students, and a bridge for the general public to become involved in the arts.

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