

**GUATEMALA DESPUÉS:  
RETHINKING THE PAST, REIMAGINING THE NOW  
PUBLIC PROGRAMS, April 9 - April 29, 2015**



**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30–8:30pm:

***Guatemala Después, Opening Reception and Artist/Curator Talks***

Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, and University Center, 63 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00–8:00 pm:

***The School of Nature and Principle, Opening Reception and Performance***

EFA Project Space, 323 W. 39th St., 2nd Floor, New York.

Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> 2:00–4:00pm:

***¿Me escuchas? (Atol con el dedo) / Can you hear me?  
(Installation / Durational Performance)***

Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, New York.

Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> 11:00–2:00pm:

***Urban Codes, Crossings and Migration: A Public Walk***

Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, New York.

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 4:00–6:30pm:

***Retelling Truth: Documentary Film as Witness and Evidence in Genocide  
Trials (Panel)***

John L. Tishman Auditorium, University Center, 63 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30–10:00pm:

6:30-8:30pm: ***New Masculinities: Human Rights and the Visual Arts (Panel)***

8:30-10:00pm: ***Black Banana: Exhibitions of Absence (Panel + Performance)***

Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Auditorium, 66 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 5:30–7:30pm:

***Rethinking Time, Memory, and Collective Practices through Guatemala Después  
(Closing)***

Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, New York.

Wednesdays, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> 5:30–6:30pm:

***Gallery Tours and Discussions with Curators/Artists***

Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, New York.

For more information on these events and the exhibition please visit:

<http://www.newschool.edu/parsons/currentExhibitions.aspx?id=107403>

Project Website: [www.GuatemalaDespues.org](http://www.GuatemalaDespues.org)



## FULL PROGRAM DETAILS

**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30–8:30pm:**

***Guatemala Después, Opening Reception & Artist/Curator Talks***

Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, and University Center,  
63 Fifth Avenue, New York.



*Guatemala Después* is a collaborative curatorial project between *The New School* and *Ciudad de la Imaginación* (Quetzaltenango, Guatemala). It seeks to showcase artistic practices from Guatemala that reclaim suspended histories, bring reveal invisible injustices, and engage in dialogues that relocate our imagination of the present. Curated by Anabella Acevedo, Pablo José Ramírez, and Nitin Sawhney.

5:30pm: Curator's Tour by Pablo José Ramírez & Nitin Sawhney, Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, New York.

6pm: Public Reception with wine & light food at Aronson Gallery, co-sponsored by the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center

7pm: *Guatemala Después: Rethinking the Past, Reimagining the Now* (Panel Discussion)  
John L. Tishman Auditorium, University Center, 63 Fifth Avenue, New York.

*A panel discussion on the role of contemporary art and curatorial practices in rethinking historical memory and resurfacing invisible justices in the context of Guatemala today. Renowned Guatemalan performance artist Regina José Galindo will be joined by artist-scholar Beatriz Cortéz in conversation with curators Pablo José Ramírez and Emiliano Valdés. The panel will be moderated by Radhika Subramaniam and live streamed.*

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### RELATED PROGRAM:

**Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00–8:00 pm:**

***The School of Nature and Principle, Opening Reception and Performance***

EFA Project Space, 323 W. 39th St., 2nd Floor, New York.

*The School of Nature and Principle* is an ensemble of works speculating on the relationship between metaphysics and various aspects of contemporary society. Curated by Emiliano Valdés, featuring Guatemalan artists Regina José Galindo and Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa, among others.

6:30–7:30 pm: *I'm Alive*: a choral performance composed by Regina José Galindo in collaboration with Paulo Alvarado will be performed by the [Grace Chorale of Brooklyn](#).

More info.: <http://www.projectspace-efanyc.org/the-school-of-nature-and-principle>

**Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> 2:00–4:00pm:**  
***¿Me escuchas? (Atol con el dedo) / Can you hear me?***  
***(Installation / Durational Performance)***  
Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, New York.

Jessica Kairé and Daniel Perera will lead a televisual gathering via Skype taking place between two diverse groups of Guatemalans who will share a traditional meal across distant geographies: Quetzaltenango (Guatemala) and New York City (USA). Identical scenarios have been installed at both sites, thus creating a continuous translocal space mediated by the screen. In this way, the platform disrupts our corporeal, spatial and temporal awareness through the hyperbolization of a now conventionalized mode of “face-to-face” interaction. The participants, who do not know each other, will prepare and eat the same meal “together”: atol de elote (sweet corn drink), tostadas with tomato sauce and black beans, and cold hibiscus tea.



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**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> 11:00–2:00pm:**  
***Urban Codes, Crossings and Migration: A Public Walk***  
Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, New York.

The Walk Exchange leads a participatory walk in NYC in collaboration with Guatemalan artist collective Sitio-Seña, and students at The New School. Using the LISTADO DE SÍMBOLOS BASE (BASIC SYMBOLS LIST) designed by Sitio-Seña for migrant travelers, we will consider the use of visual codes in our own navigation of New York City and devise new codes to reflect our findings. The collective outcomes will inform a sister walk to be held in Guatemala City.

*The Walk Exchange encourages participation from all. Please contact [info@walkexchange.org](mailto:info@walkexchange.org) if you need any special accommodations or would like more details about the walk.*  
*Related info.: <http://walkexchange.org> and <http://sitiosena.com>*

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**Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 4:00–6:30pm:**  
***Retelling Truth: Documentary Film as Witness and Evidence in Genocide Trials (Panel)***  
John L. Tishman Auditorium, University Center, 63 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Join us to hear from filmmakers Pamela Yates and Izabel Acevedo in a screening and panel discussion examine the films about the civil war and genocide trials in Guatemala, in an event moderated by Prof. Peter Lucas. Acclaimed filmmaker Pamela Yates, who directed the award-winning films *When the Mountains Tremble* and *Granito*, will screen excerpts from her new films *500 Years* and *Dictator in the Dock*. Guatemalan filmmaker Izabel Acevedo will show footage from her short film *El mico de noche* (The night monkey) and her first feature film *The Good Christian* (a work in progress, supported by the Documentary Opera Prima Fund in Mexico). Both filmmakers will discuss their work in the context of the ongoing trials of former dictator Efraín Ríos Montt, who was recently convicted of genocide and crimes against humanity, the first time a former head of state has been tried and convicted in his own country. The panelists examine how documentary film serves as both witness and evidence, while discussing the challenges they face in filmmaking and human rights advocacy.

**Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30–10:00pm:**

Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Auditorium, 66 Fifth Avenue, New York.

6:30–8:00pm: ***New Masculinities: Human Rights and the Visual Arts (Panel)***

**Daniel Hernández-Salazar's** iconic photo series, *Clarification*, depicting four angels, with wings made of human bones, have become synonymous with the struggle for justice in Guatemala. They are above all, a work of denouncement, a call for justice, and an act of remembrance. However, their striking beauty and poetic composition cannot be denied. The nude torso of a young, dark-skinned man was carefully chosen by the artist. In fact, Hernández-Salazar has a celebrated body of work rarely seen in his native Guatemala; that of nude male photography. How has this genre influenced his photography and his human rights work at large? How can a body be politicized through photography?

**Franco Arocha's** piece, *Placeres Subterráneos*, is one of the first investigations into the persecution and disappearance of 'queers' during Guatemala's Civil War. Arocha, in collaboration with historian Claudia Molina, has used the recently resurfaced National Archives of the Police (hidden for over two decades) to uncover archival documents that attest to the targeting of homosexuality by the state.

In this conversation moderated by Julian de Mayo Rodriguez, Hernández-Salazar and Arocha will discuss the politics of the body, masculinity, and the aesthetics of human rights. They will share their experiences working in the context of cultural and bureaucratic institutions, while challenging them from a position of new masculinity(ies).

**8:30-10:00pm: *Black Banana: Exhibitions of Absence***

**Black Banana** is the examination of structural racism in art and curatorial practices, and its effects on descendants of Africa living in Central America. Acting as a metaphor, it sheds light on the absence of those of the African Diaspora in the workforce, and as a part of the overall Central American cultural project.

What are the histories of these erasures, and how does this history prove the existence of a racist hegemony that results in cultural exclusion? When did the whitening of Central America begin and how does this whitening affect the economy of the black populations as well as their integration into Central American society? Is the lack of Black Latino representation evidence of prejudice in curatorial practices in contemporary Central American art? These are the questions this project hopes to explore. Black Banana seeks to create awareness of the possible denial of racism and how that denial affects who and what is curated. Ultimately the goal is to provoke an open dialog about identity, hybridity, and access.

Our evening's dialogue will begin with **Amilcar Maceo Priestly**, Director of the [AfroLatin@ Project](#). His work has centered on developing tools for social media and mobile learning, as well as digital curation that facilitates participatory action in the Afro Latino communities. Black Banana will discuss with Amilcar the absences surrounding the Afro Latino presence here and



in Central America with regard to contemporary art, as well as in the overall Latin American cultural conversation.

The event moderated by **Novel Sholars** and **Maira Nolasco**, features performances by **Mai-Elka Prado** of Delsonido and a video interview with Guatemalan curator **Pablo Jose Ramirez**.



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**Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 5:30–7:30pm:**

***Rethinking Time, Memory, and Collective Practices through Guatemala Después (Closing)***

Aronson Gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue at 13th St, New York.

*Exhibit Closing Discussion and Reception with artists Daniel Hernández-Salazar, Franco Arocha and Jessica Kairé, as well as curators Anabella Acevedo (joining remotely), Pablo José Ramírez (joining remotely), Nitin Sawhney and Radhika Subramaniam. Participants will share reflections and a preview of the exhibition planned in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala in June 2015.*

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For more information on these events and the exhibition please visit:

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