

Images available upon request.

Denver Art Museum Announces Third Installment of Multi-Year *Eyes On* Contemporary Art Series

The series continues with an interactive installation by New York-based artist Erika Harrsch

DENVER — March 28, 2018 — The Denver Art Museum (DAM) is pleased to announce its next installment of *Eyes On*, a focused multi-year contemporary art series, featuring an installation by New York-based artist Erika Harrsch, who was born and raised in Mexico City, Mexico. Organized by the DAM, the *Eyes On* series at the DAM highlights emerging contemporary artists in the Logan Gallery and Fuse Box on level 4 of the Hamilton Building through 2020. [Eyes On: Erika Harrsch](#) will be on view in Fuse Box March 10—Nov. 17, 2019.

Eyes On: Erika Harrsch is curated by Rebecca Hart, Vicki and Kent Logan Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the DAM and features a single contemporary installation titled *Under the Same Sky... We Dream*. Harrsch's installation offers a place of reflection that acknowledges the children who have crossed the border between Mexico and the U.S.

The multimedia exhibition uses photography, animation, visual language and musical performance to capture current cultural, political and environmental issues faced by children of refugees and undocumented immigrants, known as Dreamers, who are subject to the DREAM Act.

This installation was first exhibited by Harrsch in El Paso in 2017 as regulations were becoming more stringent for those seeking asylum in the U. S. The installation was also



featured at B3: The Biennial of the Moving Image in Frankfurt, Germany, that same year.

“We hope that this installation sparks contemplative reflection for our visitors,” Hart continues, “a certain empathy for the circumstances of recent immigrants into the U.S. whether refugees or undocumented, and the state of limbo that these children find themselves in.”

The installation is presented in a darkened space that is separated by a hanging screen; the silhouette of the screen is cut to resemble the borderline between the U.S. and Mexico with a video of clouds passing by. Visitors are prompted to enter the space and pass underneath the soft hanging screen to the other side of the room where there are mattresses and Mylar blankets, similar to those used by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in detention centers that house undocumented minors who have been detained trying to illegally enter the U.S. The

words of the DREAM Act envelop the room sung by vocalist Magos Herrera. Visitors are invited to recline on a mattress and use provided lamps to read the *DREAM Book*, which includes the words from the song playing in the room.



“*Under the Same Sky... We Dream* pays homage to children who try to cross international borders to start a new life, with or without their parents, and to all the parents who dream of better opportunities and a safer life,” Harrsch said. “The elements that compose the artwork evoke a space divided by geopolitical borders, yet under the same sky. One passes under the screen to enter the other side of the room, which evokes a holding cell at a U.S. Customs and Border Protection processing facility.”

Eyes On: Erika Harrsch is included in general admission and is free for youth 18 and younger.

Exhibition Sponsors

Eyes On: Erika Harrsch is organized by the Denver Art Museum. It is presented with the generous support of Vicki and Kent Logan, the donors to the Annual Fund Leadership Campaign and the citizens who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD). Promotional support is provided by *5280 Magazine*, CBS4, Comcast Spotlight and *The Denver Post*.

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The Denver Art Museum

The Denver Art Museum is an educational, nonprofit resource that sparks creative thinking and expression through transformative experiences with art. Its holdings reflect the city and region—and provide invaluable ways for the community to learn about cultures from around the world. Metro citizens support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), a unique funding source serving hundreds of metro Denver arts, culture and scientific organizations. For museum information, call 720-865-5000 or visit www.denverartmuseum.org.

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Image credits

Image 1: Erika Harrsch, installation view of *Under the Same Sky... We Dream*, 2017-19. Dimensions and duration variable. Image courtesy of the artist.

Image 2: Erika Harrsch, *DREAM Book*, a component of installation *Under the Same Sky... We Dream*, 2019. Image courtesy of the artist.