

Curriculum Vitae

MARTHA RAMIREZ-OROPEZA

Visual and Theatre Arts Practitioner and Instructor
 Muralist
 Teaching Artist Drama K-5--All immersion Spanish Language
 Professor in Mexican Indigenous Nahuatl Philosophy

Contact: Email: martha@sparcmurals.org

Born Delicias, Chihuahua, Mex 1952
 US Permanent Resident 1956
 US Citizenship 2012

Primary Education

Elementary School, "Colegio Los Angeles," Delicias, Chihuahua.
 "Pacoima" Junior High School, Pacoima, CA
 "Polytecnic High School," North Hollywood, CA

Higher Education & Apprenticeships
 1970-2008

United States

Los Angeles Valley Jr. College, Van Nuys, CA. 1969
 University of California, Northridge, CA. Chicano Studies/Arts 1970
 Antioch University, Los Angeles, CA Bachelor of Arts. 2008

Mexico

Mascarones School of Drama, Diplomado in Performing Arts, Mexico City/Cuernavaca, Mexico
 Popular Graphic Workshop, Mexico City
 Nahuatl University, Diplomado in Nahuatl Philosophy, Language and Culture, Ocotepc, Morelos
 Morelos Fine Arts Institute, Diplomado in Painting and Drawing, Cuernavaca, Mexico

1971-1973

Muralism

Apprenticeship with Master Muralist Maestro David A. Siqueiros. Intensive on-site training on the mural "Patricios y Patricidas" located in the Ex-Customs House and now, State Education Building, in Mexico City. Worked and studied at the Maestro's side for one and a half years.

1971 – 2003

School of Drama, "Los Mascarones School in Drama." 32 years from student to professional Actor, Scenic and Costume Designer, Arts Administrator, Stage Manager, Artistic Director, Community organizer, Theatre Specialist in Elementary Schools. Professional Training in Choral Poetry and Popular Theatre Techniques.

1973-5

Popular Graphics Workshop

Apprenticeship with Maestro Jesus Alvarez Amaya at his "Taller de la Grafica Popular", Mexico City. Maestro Amaya's national renowned engraving, lithograph workshop, followed the tradition and discipline of art for social change inspired by master engraver, Jose Guadalupe Posada.

1984-1988

Painting and Drawing

Fine Arts Institute of Morelos, Apprenticeship with Master Guillermo Monroy, Diego Rivera assistant and Frida Kahlo's student

1990-2003 Nahuatl University, Diplomado in Nahuatl Culture. Research and Teaching.

2003-2013 Social and Public Art Resource Center. SPARC. On- going Training in the Digital Mural Technology and Mural Restoration under Master muralist, Judith Baca.

2012 6-week total immersion in Huastecan Nahuatl Language Summer Course. IDIEZ, Institute of Languages from Zacatecas, Mexico, at CAL State Los Angeles

Employment

1971-2003 Actor/Director in the Mascarones Theatre Group

1984-1985 Marionetas de La Esquina, Puppet Theatre Company

1985-2003 Administrator of the Mascarones Theatre Group.

1990-1995 Nahuatl University campus, Architectural Design and Construction oversight of four pyramid buildings

1995-2003 Nahuatl University co-founder, core faculty. Administrator 1990-2003.

2004-2013 UCLA Visiting Faculty, Indigenous Nahuatl Philosophy, Oral and Written Tradition,

Day of the Dead Ritual, Cesar E Chavez Chicana/o Studies Department

2004-2013 SPARC, Artist in Residence at The Social and Public Arts Resource Center

2008-2009 Virginia Ave Park, After School Drama class, Santa Monica, CA

2004-2013 PSARTS Theatre Specialist, Public School Arts, Edison Language Academy Theatre, total immersion Spanish K-5th PSArts. Edison Language Academy, Santa Monica, CA

2003-2013- SPARC Artist in Residence, has been an ongoing painting assistant to Master Muralist, Judith F. Baca, (among other murals, "The Golden People," "Hitting the Wall," "Robert F. Kennedy," "The Great Wall of Los Angeles," "The World Wall," "Miguel Contreras Mural," "Cesar Chavez Monument Mosaic").

2006 Fall-Winter UCLA Intro. Two Courses: Nahuatl Philosophy through the written and oral tradition, Cesar E. Chavez Chicana/o Studies Department

2006 Antioch University at Los Angeles, Culver City, Antioch Mural Development.

2007 UCLA Nahuatl Philosophy Fall Quarter

2008 UCLA Introduction to Codices Fall Quarter Cesar E. Chavez Chicana/o Studies Department

2010 UCLA Day of the Dead Ritual Fall Quarter Cesar E. Chavez Chicana/o Studies Department

2011 UCLA Day of the Dead Ritual Fall Quarter Cesar E. Chavez Chicana/o Studies Department

2011 Ithaca, New York. Heaven and Earth Institute, "Toltec I Ching" Intensive Summer Course

2011 Ithaca, New York. Aromahead Institute. "Toltec I Ching" intensive Summer Course

2012 UCLA Day of the Dead Ritual Fall Quarter

2013 UCLA "Introduction to the Teaching Artist K-5" Department of Arts and Architecture UCLA

Courses as a Teaching Artist and Lecturer in the United States/ and others

Courses Taught in Mexico

Mascarones 1978-2002

Choral Poetry and Muralism for Primary and Secondary School Teachers. State Education Department of Morelos.

1978-88 Federal State Education Department, Mask and Choral Poetry Workshops throughout Mexico, Chihuahua, Tabasco, San Luis Potosi, Aguascalientes, Durango, Chiapas, Veracruz, Hidalgo and others.

Morelos State Education Department Community Mural workshops for teachers in the state of Morelos, Mexico: "Vicente Guerrero" Elementary School, Vicente Guerrero, Cuernavaca, "Miguel Hidalgo" Elementary School Miguel Hidalgo, Cuautla, "Igualdad, Fraternidad, Solidaridad" Elementary School, Jojutla

Federal Consumer Institute, Children's puppet workshops in 20 Mexico City elementary schools, Mexico City

Nahuatl University, Ocoteppec, Morelos. 1991-2003

Bilingual Course Nahuatl/Spanish for Nahuatl Speaking teachers of the State of Morelos. Muralism/Theatre
 Universidad Nahuatl - Co-founder and founding teacher of Pre-Hispanic Calendar Systems, Intro. To Codices
 Elementary School Visual and Performing Arts for 3rd-6th grade, "Miguel Allende" and "Morelos" Schools.
 Course in Ancient Calendar of Mexico, Tonalpoualli, Calendaro Ritual"

Annual Intensive Nahuatl Culture Summer Course for Chicana/os.

Day of the Dead Intensive Courses for Chicana/os collaborating with Ocoteppec, Morelos, indigenous town authorities
 Nahuatl University Children's Cultural Nahuatl Theatre Summer Camp

Women for Peace Encuentro, Course in Codices, "Feminine Forces in Ancient Manuscripts"

Courses in the United States

1994 Public Library, Roseburg, Oregon Ancient Calendar of Mexico

1994 Casa de Colores, Brownsville, Texas, Tonalpoualli Calendar Workshop.

1995 East Los Angeles College Codice Workshop, Angeles, California

1995 Indigenous Mask Workshop. Cultural Center, Roseburg, Oregon, USA

Indigenous Community Theatre Workshop. Producing and directing the myth, "Ze Akatl Topiltzin
 Ketzalkoatl", Roseburg, Oregon, USA

1997 Arizona State University, Tempe Codice and mural painting workshop, producing the mural "Ollin Mecha"

1997 University of Texas, El Paso, Intensive Nahuatl Culture Course, El Paso-Nahuatl University

1998 UCLA Mecha, Seminar on Nahuatl Language and Worldview

1999 Stanford University, California Prehispanic Calendar presentation, and mural workshop in the Chicana/o dorm

2001 Columbia University, Oral Tradition of Mexico, New York.

2001 Symposium on Community Culture Development. Bellagio, Italia.

Continued at the Rockefeller Foundation, Nueva York, N.Y. USA

2002 Mayne Island, Canada Community Center, Introduction to the Ancient Calendar of Mexico.

2002 University of Colorado, Boulder, Aztec Calendar, Tonalmachiotl, University of Colorado, Boulder,

2002 SPARC- Nahuatl University. Codex and Chicano Mural Workshop. Co-taught with Judy Baca.

2002 University of New Mexico, Nahuatl Culture and Pedagogy. Intensive Course in Nahuatl Culture and Pedagogy

2002 Nahuatl Culture Course Venice, California. SPARC

2002 University of California, Santa Cruz, Course on Dia de Muertos, All Dead's Day,

2003 University of Los Angeles UCLA "Introduction to Nahuatl Philosophy through the Iconography of Codices,
 Sculptures and Architecture." Fall quarter

2003 University of Texas, El Paso, and at the Nahuatl University, Nahuatl Culture and History

2003 SPARC community paper maché workshop for Day of the Dead altar and ceremony

2004 The International Centre of Art for Social Change, Judith Marcuse Earth Project.

The Signs of the Earth, collaboration with Judith F. Baca, Vancouver, and Mayne Island, BC, Canada

2004 Victoria Island, Canada, Introduction to Nahuatl Philosophy through the glyphs of ancient codices.

Theatre Festivals

Part of Organizing Committee

1974 Fifth Annual Chicana/o TENAZ Theatre Festival- Primer Encuentro Latinoamericano in Mexico City. 57 Theatre
 companies from U.S. and Latin America attend a massive festival co-organized by the members of the Mascarones
 Theatre Group in Mexico City and Veracruz. As a young member of the Mascarones, Martha is in charge of
 transporting theatres coming from the Eastern states of the U.S. Luis Valdez, Augusto Boal, Enrique Buenaventura,
 Mariano Leyva, 700 attend.

1990-2003 "Xopanixtli Children Spring Festival". 500 children on stage, performing on pyramids the ancient Nahuatl poems. 14 consecutive years co-organizer of event with the Indigenous town officials and Elementary School principals. Ocoatepec, Morelos, Mexico

1971-2003. Theatre Production in Mexico

During these years Martha alternating from Performer, Artistic Director, Producer, Set Designer, co-creating within the Mascarones Theatre Group more than 41 plays.

(Titles and descriptions of plays upon request)

2005-2013 PSArts, at Edison Language Academy

Since 2005, Martha teaches drama in Spanish to K-5 students through PSArts, a non-profit organization that places Teaching Artists in elementary schools. Besides teaching drama, she stages a play for each class. And, every year, directs a semi-professional theatrical Bi-Lingual Spanish/English Production, with the 5th grade students, which alternate each year at Edison Language Academy. 70 students are taught in a sequential visual and performing arts based curriculum during their k-4th grades, and culminate in their 5th grade graduation with a massive show. Alternating two plays:

"Cambia Todo Cambia" 2005/2007/2009/2011/2013

"La Gran Carpa Edison". 2006/2008/2010/2012

Visual Arts at Edison Language Academy 2010-2013

Mural Production

1996 "Kauahtemok", Tetelcingo, Morelos. Mexico

1988 "Tetelcinga" and "El Chinelo," Teatro Morelos, City Auditorium, Cine Morelos

1999 "Tlazolteotl, Creative Force of the Un-Woven," Mexican Panel, collaboration with Judy Baca's Vision of the Future without Fear, World Wall, Mexican Panel.

2004 "In Tlamatini" State Education Department Building, Cuernavaca, Morelos Mexico 2004

(19 other Mural Titles upon request)

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-vBGtJHtJg>)

Publications

Teomoxtli Children's Play. CD/Script Adaptation of an ancient Nahuatl myth. Nahuatl University Publications 2000

Teomoxtli. Illustrations for the Sacred Book of the Toltec Genesis . Nahuatl University Publications 2000

Mesoamerican Calculator. Illustrations. William Horden. Oregon, USA 2002

Tonalpouhki Manual. Publication. The Ancient Calendar Systems. Nahuatl University Publications 2003

Huehiepoualli. Counting the Ancestor's Heartbeat. The Community, Culture and Globalization. Chapter 2.

Rockefeller Foundation. New York. 2002

The Toltec-I Ching, Larson Publishing House, NY, Co-authors Martha Ramirez and William Horden. 2009

Toltec I Ching, Spiritual Warrior Cards. SPARC publication 2009

Awards & Recognition, Grants

1974 Taller de Grafica Popular Medal of Recognition, Mexico City

1994 State Education Department Diploma of Recognition, Morelos, Mexico Mural "In Tlamatini,"

- 2002 Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio, Italy Community Culture Development Seminar.. Community Cultural Development and Globalization. Article published in book that resulted from Symposium.
- 2003 Nahuatl University Co-Founder and Professor Diploma of Recognition for Thirteen Years of Research and Teaching.
- 2004 Durfee Foundation Artist Resource for Completion Grant for "La Pastorela" theatre production at the Social and Public Arts Resource Center
- 2009 "The Toltec-I Ching," Co-Author with William Horden. Larson Publishing House, NY Nautilus Book Award
- 2011 PSARTS 2010-2011 School Year Best Teaching Artist Appreciation Recognition

References:

Theatre

Luis Valdez
 Lupe Valdez
 Teatro Campesino
 Founders and Director
 705 Fourth St
 San Juan Bautista, CA 95045
 (831) 623-2444
 P.O. Box 1495
 (831)623-4901
 San Juan Bautista, CA 95045
 luis@elteatrocampesino.com

Alma Martinez Ph.D.
 Department of Drama
 Stanford University
 Assistant Professor
 Theater Arts Department
 J-14, Theater Arts Center
 1156 High Street
 University of California
 Santa Cruz, CA 95064
 office: 831.459.4918
 fax: 831.459.3552
 almamar@cats.ucsc.edu

Rosa Apodaca
 Of the Founding generation of Teatro Campesino
 Visiting Professor
 Chicano Theatre
 1156 High Street
 University of California
 Santa Cruz, CA95064
 Teacher at Hollister Elementary School
 Hollister, CA
 831.623. 2692
 rosanuno@earthlink.net

Visual Arts

Professor Judith F. Baca
 UCLA Cesar Chavez Center for Interdisciplinary Studies
 UCLA World Arts and Culture Department
 Founder/Artistic Director of SPARC and the UCLA/SPARC Cesar Chavez Digital/Mural Lab
 (310) 822-9560 x 22
 685 Venice Blvd.
 Venice, CA 90291
 judyaca@ucla.edu

Debra Padilla
 Executive Director of SPARC
 (310) 822-9560
 685 Venice Blvd.
 Venice, CA 90291
 debra@sparcmurals.org

Nahuatl Philosophy

Dr. Yolanda Chavez Leyva
 Dept of History
 University of Texas at El Paso
 El Paso, TX 79968
 815-747-7067
 yleyva@utep.edu

Teaching Artistry

Lori Orum
 Principal
 Edison Language Academy
 2425 Kansas Avenue
 Santa Monica, CA 90404
 310-828-0335
 lori Orum <orum@mail.smmusd.org>

Professional Affiliations:

Mascarones Theatre, Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico. (1971-2003)
 Universidad Nahuatl, Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico. Co-Founder of,
 And US-Mexico, Course Coordinator (1990-2003)
 Social and Public Art Resource Center, Venice, CA., artist in residence (2003-2013)
 UCLA, Visiting Professor (2003-2011)
 PSArts Teaching Artist at Edison Language Academy K-5th (2005-13)