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FINE ARTS
SOCIETY OF PEORIA

December 9, 2021 @ 10:00 AM
by Zoom

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VIDA AMERICANA: MEXICAN MURALISTS REMAKE AMERICAN ART, 1925-1945
lecture by Sarah Humphreville, Whitney Museum of American Art

Mexico underwent a radical cultural transformation at the end of its Revolution in 1920, giving rise to art that spoke directly to the people about social justice and national life. The model galvanized artists in the United States who were seeking to break free of European aesthetic domination to create publicly significant and accessible native art. Numerous American artists traveled to Mexico, and the leading Mexican muralists – José Clemente Orozco, Diego Rivera, and David Alfaro Siqueiros – spent extended periods of time in the United States, creating murals, paintings, drawings, and prints; exhibiting their work; and interacting with local artists.

This talk, developed from the Whitney Museum of American Art's exhibition of the same name, will examine the profound impact the Mexican muralists had on their counterparts in the United States in the interwar period and the ways in which their example inspired American artists to create epic narratives about American history and everyday life, and to use their art to protest economic, social, and racial injustices.



Alfredo Ramos Martínez
Mexican (1871-1946)
Calle Lily Vendor, 1929, oil on canvas
Private collection © The Alfredo Ramos
Martínez Research Project, reproduced
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Sarah Humphreville is a Senior Curatorial Assistant at the Whitney Museum of American Art, and works with the Drawing and Print Committee and American Fellows patron group. She holds an M.A. from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University. She received a B.A., summa cum laude, in art history, and a B.F.A. in painting with a minor in drawing from Cornell University. Previously she was employed by the Jewish Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, and galleries in New York and Los Angeles.

Register in advance to receive the Zoom link for this lecture:

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For more information and the full 2021-2022 schedule plus a membership form, please visit www.FineArtsSociety.net or contact president@fineartsociety.net.

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