

March 8, 2023

“The Aesthetics of Information”: No Olvidaremos
Art exhibition by María Verónica San Martín

Presented by:
Department of Fine Arts / Studio Arts Program
And The Watkinson Library
Trinity College
300 Summit Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Location: Widener Gallery / Austin Arts Center
Watkinson Library

Exhibition dates: March 13 – May 13, 2023

Performance by the artist and public reception: April 6, 4:30 - 6:30PM, at Widener Gallery
Free admission

Widener Gallery Hours: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday - Friday
1:00 pm to 6:00 pm Saturday, Closed Sunday

Note: Gallery will be closed during Spring Break, March 18 to March 26

Watkinson Library Hours: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Monday - Friday
Closed weekends

About the exhibition:

Through this exhibition, Chilean artist María Verónica San Martín commemorates the 50th anniversary of the U.S. supported military coup d'état in Chile, which overthrew the democratically elected president and imposed a regime of repression, human rights violations and political torture. At Trinity, San Martín brings together several projects that grapple with and memorialize this history: *Dignidad* (2018), *The Javelin Project* (2021), and examples from her *Moving Memorial* series (2012-ongoing)

Dignidad (Trans. *Dignity*) is based on the story of Colonia Dignidad, a secretive colony in the south of Chile that became a major site for clandestine operations by the DINA—the Pinochet regime's intelligence forces—in collaboration with the CIA and Nazi officers, who had been relocated to Chile after World War II. At least 300 people were tortured and close to 100 people were executed without trial at the site. Many of the bodies have still not been located; some are buried in mass graves and some were incinerated in 1978 to eliminate evidence. *Dignidad* features original files from the National Archives of Chile and previously unreleased audio found by Winfried Hempel, a survivor of Colonia and lead lawyer for the human rights violation case being prosecuted in Chile at this time. Hempel and San Martín have been collaborating on the exhi-

bition since 2016. Through sculpture, sound, performance, text, and a selection of archival materials, San Martín reveals a complex system of codes and transcontinental actions that culminated in crimes against minors and opponents of the Chilean civic-military dictatorship (1973-1990).

The Javelin Project comprises several elements including sculptural objects and a three-channel video encapsulating a 30-minute ritual-performance with music. Inspired by sports, and more specifically by the javelin throw, the project seeks to reflect on issues of power and patriarchy through a choreography based on simple movements and gestures that articulate many references, from early aboriginal cultures to the capitalist system we inhabit. The Performance was conceived alongside and in collaboration with Chilean choreographer Jose Vidal.

Moving Memorials is an ongoing project composed of 13 mobile handmade artist books incorporating printmaking techniques that explore historic truths, human rights issues and mass resistance in contemporary Chile.

About the artist:

María Verónica San Martín (b.1981) is a Chilean, New York-based multidisciplinary artist and educator. She was a fellow at the Whitney Museum's Independent Study Program and has an MA from The Corcoran School of Art and Design, George Washington University, Washington DC. She has exhibited nationally and internationally at BRIC Arts Media, Brooklyn, NY; Artists Space, the New York Immigrant Artist Biennial, the Queens Museum and Rockefeller Center, all in New York, NY; and at the Chilean National Archive, Galleria NAC and Galeria Animal in Santiago and at the Museum Meermanno, The Hague, Netherlands. Her work is held in more than 60 collections including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN; The Watkinson Library, CT; The Museum of Memory and Human Rights, Santiago, Chile; and The Centre Pompidou, Paris, France.

Exhibition curated by Erica Wessmann, Director Widener Gallery

For more information contact:

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For more information about the artist please visit her website: www.mveronicasanmartin.com

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