



Above: Arleene Correa Valencia, *25 Estrellas: Sueños Para Mi Hija / 25 Stars: Dreams For My Daughter*, 2022.
Repurposed American Flag, embroidery on canvas.

Arleene Correa Valencia: *Naces Así, Naces Prieto. No Naces Blanco / You Are Born Like This, You Are Born Brown. You Are Not Born White.*

On view August 26 – November 4, 2023 | North Gallery and Media Room
Opening reception: Saturday, August 26 from 3 – 5pm; artist talk at 4pm

San Francisco: Catharine Clark Gallery opens its fall program with Arleene Correa Valencia's *Naces Así, Naces Prieto. No Naces Blanco / You Are Born Like This, You Are Born Brown. You Are Not Born White.*, on view August 26 – November 4, 2023 in the North Gallery and Media Room. Born in Mexico and based in California's Napa Valley, Arleene Correa Valencia creates paintings, textiles, and drawings that reflect on patterns of migration and family separation. Her recent work is inspired by the letters that she wrote to her father as a child, during a period when her father had migrated to the United States while Correa Valencia remained in Mexico. Correa Valencia draws on her family's archives and correspondence to craft a visual language that considers the politics of visibility and the complexities of undocumented immigration.



Above: Arleene Correa Valencia, *Dreamer*, 2023. Natural hand-dyed wool woven by Jacobo Mendoza, Teotitlan Del Valle, Oaxaca, MX. 41 x 72 inches.

A former Dreamer, Correa Valencia often incorporates her family's textiles into the work to commemorate her own border crossing. Her work frequently depicts parents and children in silhouette, rendering them anonymous, as they cross the border. Outlined in thread, these figures appear both present and absent, seemingly in a perpetual state of transition. Correa Valencia's exhibition features new textiles and drawings, as well as two major paintings, light sculptures, and a sound piece – the artist's first – installed in the gallery's Media Room.

Correa Valencia's exhibition coincides with her inclusion in the triennial Bay Area Now 9 (BAN9) at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, on view October 6, 2023–May 5, 2024. Correa Valencia's work is also featured at The Armory Show in New York, September 7 – 10, 2023, in the Focus section, organized by Candice Hopkins, Director and Chief Curator of Forge Project, a Native-led initiative that supports work by contemporary Indigenous artists.

Join us for an opening reception on Saturday, August 26 from 3 – 5pm, with an artist talk at 4pm.



In conversation with Correa Valencia's work, the gallery presents *Yes, it's an original*, a survey of recent publications by Muldowney Printing in our South Gallery, on view through September 23, 2023. The exhibition features new and recent prints by Arleene Correa Valencia, Sherrill Roland, Kali Spitzer, Stephanie Syjuco, Masami Teraoka, Storm Tharp, and Marie Watt.

In the photogravure series, *Antes De Mi / Before Me* (2023), Correa Valencia attempts to trace her family's history, starting from the union of her paternal grandparents, who now play a significant role in the artist's connection to her native heritage.

Before Me unveils a part of her family's story that ultimately led to her migration to the United States, where she faced the hardships of being an undocumented immigrant. Growing up as an undocumented recipient of DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), Correa Valencia observed that much of her family's past had been lost or erased to facilitate assimilation and protect them from being identified as "illegal."

This series combines etchings of traditional Mexican images, family photos, embroidery, and beading, weaving together stories spanning multiple generations. The pieces aim to illustrate a family's resilience amid the political unrest between the United States and Latin America.

Above: Arleene Correa Valencia, *Abuela, disculpa por molestar tu paz pero necesito que sepas que él está bien. Lo he cuidado mucho y ahora tiene su pedazo de felicidad.; Grandmother, I am sorry to disturb your peace but I need you know that he's okay. I'm taking care of him and he finally has a piece of happiness.*, 2023. Copperplate photogravure and soft ground etching with embroidery on silk. Sheet: 37 x 25 3/4 inches.



Arleene Correa Valencia (b. 1993, Michoacán, Mexico; lives in Napa, California) is an inaugural recipient of the Bay Area Fellowship at Headlands Center for the Arts and received a regional Emmy award for her feature *REPRESENT: Portraits of Napa Workers: Arleene Correa Valencia* by KQED Arts. In 2023, Correa Valencia was also named a Eureka Fellow by the Fleishhacker Foundation. In October 2023, her work will be featured in the triennial Bay Area Now 9 (BAN9) at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco.

In 2021-2022, Correa Valencia was the subject of a solo exhibition, *Llévame Contigo, Yo Quiero Estar Contigo*, at the Trout Museum of Art in Appleton, Wisconsin. In 2022, Correa Valencia had her first international solo exhibition, *(in)visibles En La Oscuridad (De Regreso A Casa)* at the Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla in Mexico, curated by

Guadalupe García and generously sponsored by The ANT Project.

In 2023, Correa Valencia's work was featured in exhibitions at the Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, Oregon; San Francisco Arts Commission, California; Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, New York; Alfred University, New York; and Berkeley Art Center, California.

Catharine Clark Gallery opened Correa Valencia's solo exhibition, *Naces Así, Naces Prieto. No Naces Blanco / You Are Born Like This, You Are Born Brown. You Are Not Born White*, on August 26, 2023, in the North Gallery through November 4, 2023. Correa Valencia's work has been collected by the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, Kansas; Grand Valley State University Art Gallery, Michigan; Ulrich Museum of Art at Wichita State University, Kansas; and 21c Museum Hotels, Louisville, Kentucky.

Correa Valencia received her BFA and MFA from California College of the Arts. One of four children originally from Arteaga, Michoacán, Mexico, Correa Valencia is a beneficiary of DACA (Deferred Action Childhood Arrivals) and is on a path to becoming a naturalized citizen of the United States. The Correa Valencia family fled to the United States in 1997 and found home in California's Napa Valley. Correa Valencia has been represented by Catharine Clark Gallery since 2022.