

**For Immediate Release, November 7, 2014**



UCR ARTSblock's Sweeney Art Gallery presents  
**Adriana Salazar: Perpetuity**

December 6, 2014 – March 21, 2015

*Artist Reception: Friday, December 11, 2014, 5:30-7 PM, free admission*

*Curator & Artist Discussion: Saturday, December 12, 2014, 4-5 PM, free admission*

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – *Adriana Salazar: Perpetuity* presents two large-scale, kinetic installations and four single-channel videos. Salazar creates sculptures and installations in which formerly alive creatures are mechanically re-animated: garments, fallen plants, taxidermy animals, objects that are in the verge of becoming debris, have been transformed into new beings that are able to linger in the realm of artificiality. Through the construction of these hybrid objects, Salazar blurs the definitions of a machine, of what is natural, and of what is alive.

Is there an end to our existence? Can we be separated from our bodies and be transformed into something else? Salazar's work has continued to revolve around these questions in different ways. This is why the realm of mortuary customs appeals to her: it presents numerous ways to approach the ultimate unknown.

In the installation, *Nothing Else Left*, for example, five wooden tables display tidy rows of metal scraps. There are old screws, bent rods and small piles of rusty wires. Salazar retrieved the pieces from a crematorium. The metal bits on the table are medical implants, which were once inside living bodies. They embody the question of the status of our own existence on a physical

level: their materiality creates confusion between those objects as parts of a physical body and our own body, thus opening the gap between our certainties and uncertainties, beyond the matter of human death itself.

*Adriana Salazar: Perpetuity* is presented in collaboration with UC Riverside's *The Immortality Project*, a multi-year project to study the science, philosophy, and theology of immortality, exploring questions related to the nature of heaven, civic immortality, and the desirability of living forever.

Curator of the exhibition, Tyler Stallings, and Salazar will discuss her work at 4 PM on Saturday, December 13, in the Sweeney Art Gallery, as part UC Riverside's conference *Objects of Devotion/Objetos de Devoción: Latin American Material Religious Cultures*, December 12-13, 2014. This multidisciplinary conference engages historic and contemporary Latin American and Latino visual, material, and ritual cultural practice, coinciding with an exhibit of the work of Mexican-British artist, Alinka Echeverria, at UCR California Museum of Photography (through January 24, 2015). Echeverria's photographs explore the relationship of visual, religious, and material culture in Mexico, considering in particular the power of the Guadalupe icon.

Information on conference, open to the public

<http://ideasandsociety.ucr.edu/conferences/objects-of-devotion-conference>

*Adriana Salazar: Perpetuity* is organized by Sweeney Art Gallery at UCR ARTSblock and curated by Tyler Stallings, Artistic Director, Culver Center of the Arts & Director, Sweeney Art Gallery, UCR ARTSblock. Support has been provided by Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana, California and Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Harbor, California, venues presented a selection of works by Salazar for the *2013 California-Pacific Triennial*, UC Riverside's College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS) and the City of Riverside.

## Artist Bio

Adriana Salazar lives and works in Mexico City. Her work as an artist has focused on the question of gestures, the relationship between subjects and objects, and the boundaries between nature and artifice. She received a BFA Honors degree from the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University of Bogota, and a Magna cum Laude MFA degree in Philosophy, from the Javeriana University of Bogota. With her kinetic objects and installations she has participated in art biennales, collective and solo exhibitions, such as Thingworld (Triennial of Media Art) 2014, the California-Pacific Triennial, and the Manif d'art de Québec. She has also participated in several academic and curatorial projects, and has received fellowships from international artistic residencies, such as Akiyoshidai International Art Village, Japan, and Nordik Artists' Center, Norway. Adriana has worked as a Visiting Lecturer at the Javeriana University of Bogota, and at the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University of Bogota. She is currently pursuing a PHD in art Practice, at UNAM, in Mexico City. <http://adrianasalazar.net>

**Concurrent Exhibitions at UCR Sweeney Art Gallery and Culver Center of the Arts**

**Desert Lighthouse Ultimatum: The Second Installation in Daniel Hawkins' Desert Lighthouse Trilogy**, November 22, 2014 - March 14th, 2015, Reception, February 28th, 2015, 6pm - 9pm, free admission, UCR Culver Center of the Arts. Coinciding with the City of Riverside's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival of Lights, *Desert Lighthouse Ultimatum* presents multi-media artist Daniel Hawkins' full-size, functioning lighthouse as part of a sprawling light-filled exhibition at UCR ARTSblock's Culver Center of the Arts soaring two-story atrium.

**Adriana Salazar: Perpetuity**, December 6, 2014-March 21, 2015, UCR Sweeney Art Gallery, presents two large-scale, kinetic installations in which garments, fallen plants, taxidermy animals, and objects that are in the verge of becoming debris, have been transformed into new beings that are able to linger in the realm of artificiality, blurring the definitions of a machine, of what is natural, and of what is alive.

**Visitor Information and Press Inquiries**

UCR ARTSblock is located at 3824 & 3834 Main St., Riverside, CA 92501, and includes three venues: California Museum of Photography, Culver Center of the Arts, and Sweeney Art Gallery, which are open Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m., plus 6-9 p.m. for First Thursday ArtWalks. Admission is \$3, which includes entry to all three venues, and is free during First Thursday ArtWalks (6-9 p.m.). For film screenings, Culver Center opens 30 minutes prior to the start time. <http://artsblock.ucr.edu>.

Press inquiries: Tyler Stallings, Artistic Director, Culver Center of the Arts & Director, UCR Sweeney Art Gallery, 951-827-1463, [tyler.stallings@ucr.edu](mailto:tyler.stallings@ucr.edu).

Image caption, page 1: Adriana Salazar, *Nothing Else Left*, 2013, detail of installation depicting an array of hip replacement pieces. Permanent Collection from Sweeney Art Gallery at UCR ARTSblock, University of California, Riverside.

###