

Leo Marz Zapopan, 1979

Lives and works in Monterrey

Leo Marz works across traditional and unconventional media, including drawing, painting, sculpture, video, performance, sound, and installation. Through his practice, he explores the intersections of history, technology, objecthood, and subjecthood in contemporary society. His work examines the fragmentary nature of a world in constant flux, creating environments that invite viewers to reflect on the interconnected and contradictory aspects of life.

By recontextualizing fragments of reality to construct alternate worlds, Marz challenges how we perceive and interpret physical and imagined spaces. He elevates his compositions by poetically ascribing them with titles derived from found text. Whether drawing from media, his personal surroundings, or public spaces, Marz abstracts these references to create distortions in time and space.

Marz received an MFA in New Media from the Transart Institute for Creative Research and Donau Universität, Krems, Austria (2008). He is currently co-represented by Galería Wendi Norris in the United States.

His recent exhibitions include *Atmósfera total* (Museo Experimental el Eco, 2025), *In The Shadows, Our Ghosts Lurk* (Contemporary at Blue Star, 2025), *(Im) Posibilidades: Performances Art for Video* (Ogden Contemporary Arts, 2025), *They Stare At You From Billions of Years Ago* (MARCO, Monterrey, 2024), *Pintura contemporánea en México* (Museo Amparo, Puebla, 2024), and *The Ancient Incident* (Museo Jumex, Mexico City, 2021). His work has been featured in the Yucatán Biennale, the Emergency Biennale in Chechnya, Palazzo delle Arti Napoli, CCS Hessel Museum of Art (Bard College), Museo de las Américas (Denver), Steve Turner Contemporary (Los Angeles), Espacio Arte Contemporáneo (Montevideo), as well as MAM, MUCA, MACG, Casa del Lago UNAM, and MARCO, among others. His work is part of the permanent collection of Fundación M (Mexico City).

Marz has been recognized with numerous institutional awards, including grants from the Sistema Nacional de Creadores de Arte (SNCA), Programa Jóvenes Creadores del FONCA, Fundación Jumex, Programa de Estímulo a la Creación y al Desarrollo Artístico (PECDA), and the third edition of Bancomer-MACG Arte Actual.

In addition to his artistic practice, Marz is a prolific curator and educator. He has served as Director of the Arts Center at Universidad de Monterrey (UEM), Professor at the Monterrey Center for Higher Learning of Design (CEDIM), Artistic Director of Lugar Común, and Curator for the XII Bienal FEMSA (all in Monterrey, Mexico). He has lectured at Museo de Arte de Ciudad Juárez, the 2008 American Association of Museums Annual Meeting, and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection (Venice, Italy), among others.

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STUDIES

MFA in New Media, Transart Institute and Donau Universität, Krems, Austria

Technical career in Analog Photography, Escuela Americana de Fotografía, Monterrey, Mexico

Bachelor of Fine Arts, UDLA-P, Puebla, Mexico

SOLO SHOWS

2023

Situations Will Continuously Happen (Part 1), Pequod Co., Mexico City, Mexico

Modern Office, Gallery Wendi Norris, San Francisco, USA

2022

texting each other from across the room, Ayer in collaboration with Residencia 797, Guadalajara, Mexico

Futuristic Flower, curated by Laura Orozco, PEANA, Monterrey, Mexico

2021

The Ancient Incident, Museo Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico

2020

The Last Buffet, Pequod Co., Mexico City, Mexico

XIV FEMSA Biennial *Inestimable Azar* (comissioned work), Centro Cultural Clavijero, Morelia, Mexico

2019

Aquellos mundos, Galería Hilario Galguera, Mexico City, Mexico

2018

Las batallas del display, Alternativa Once, Monterrey, Mexico

2017

Monolito, Proyectos Impala, Chihuahua, Mexico

2012

Dead Ringers, Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles, USA

Realidad in Absentia, Muno, Zacatecas, Mexico

2011

Justin Case This Is The End, Casa del Lago, Mexico City, Mexico

2009

Cog., No-Automático, Monterrey, Mexico

GROUP SHOWS

2025

Atmósfera total, curated by David Miranda, Museo Experimental el Eco, Mexico City, Mexico

In the Shadows, Our Ghost Lurk, curated by Fabiola Iza Contemporary at Blue Star, San Antonio, USA

(Im) Posibilidades: Performances Art for Video, curated by PROArtes and Adam Forrester, Ogden Contemporary Arts, Utah, USA

2024

Pintura contemporánea México, Museo Amparo, Puebla, Mexico

30 años en el mundo del arte: Una revisión de la Bienal FEMSA, curated by Daniel Garza Usabiaga, León, Mexico

2021

CREADORXS, Salón Cosa 2nd edition at Bellwort Hotel, Guadalajara, Mexico

Una pintura no es una isla, Centro Cultural Plaza Fátima, Nuevo León, Mexico

Normal Exceptions: Contemporary Art in Mexico, Museo Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico

2020

Afinidades electivas, Américas Mil500, Guadalajara, Mexico

Festival Arte en Vivo, Fototeca Nuevo León, Monterrey, Mexico

Los objetos en el espejo están más cerca de lo que parece, Museo Autoservicio Antara, Mexico City, Mexico

A medida incierta, CONARTE in collaboration with Galería Emma Molina and Alternativa Once Galería, Nave Generadores, Nuevo León, Mexico

Regresar al origen: Las Fuentes de Macropiazza, Festival Internacional de Santa Lucía 2020 and Las Artes Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico

If You Like This, You'll Love That, Collarworks, New York, USA

2019

Registro 05/Enfocar la mirada, MARCO, Monterrey, Mexico

2018

Ficción y tiempo, Centro Cultural Tlatelolco, Mexico City, Mexico

#núcleo, Galería Hilario Galguera, Mexico City, Mexico

La imagen perdida, Museo de Arte Raúl Anguiano, Guadalajara, Mexico

2017

Forma sobre fondo, Proyectos Monclova, Mexico City, Mexico

The New Wave of Silence, El cuarto de máquinas, Mexico City, Mexico

proxy, Atski Gallery; NODE Gallery and Studio 7044, Helsinki, Finland

2015

Visualizar, Ex-Convento del Carmen, Guadalajara, Mexico

La voluntad de la piedra, Centro Cultural Tijuana, Tijuana, Mexico

2014

La voluntad de la piedra, Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico City; Museo Amparo, Puebla; Museo de Arte de Sonora, Sonora, Mexico

2013

Toda la memoria del mundo, Casa del Lago, Mexico City, Mexico

2012

Los irrespetuosos, Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico

Mitos oficiales, Laboratorio de Oaxaca, Oaxaca, Mexico

Los impolíticos, Espacio de Arte Contemporáneo, Montevideo, Uruguay

2011

Tiempo de sospecha, Museo de Arte Moderno, Mexico City, Mexico

2010

Second Coming, Hessel Museum of Art, New York, USA

2009

CHPPDNSCRWD, Yautepec gallery, Mexico City, Mexico

Una serie de microfascismos consecutivos y sin fin, MUCA Roma, Mexico City, Mexico

Los impolíticos, Palazzo delle Arti Napoli, Naples, Italy

2008

The Milagrosos, Space Invaders, Museo de las Américas, Denver, USA

Cho Cosushi, Trajectories, New Life Shop Gallery, Berlin, Germany

2007

Me odio y quiero comprar, Galería Enrique Guerrero, Mexico City, Mexico

2006

All Together Now, Plataforma 06, Puebla, Mexico

Bunker o no Bunker, Ramis Barquet, Monterrey, Mexico

PERFORMANCE

2021

Old Stories for Young Readers, as part of The Ancient Incident, Museo Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico

FAIRS

2023

Material Art Fair, Mexico City, Mexico

2022

The Armory Show in collaboration with Ana Navas, Pequod Co. at PRESENTS section, Javits Center, New York, USA

A Jab Line, a collaboration with Andrew Roberts, Pequod Co. at EXPO CHICAGO, Chicago, USA

RESIDENCIES

2022

Residence program, program collaboration between Residencia 797 and Ayer, Guadalajara, Mexico

2019

Taller Los Guayabos, Guadalajara, Mexico

2012

The Banff Center FONCA, Banff, Canada

2010

PAN Studios, Naples, Italy

2009

SPACES World Artist Program, Cleveland, USA

2008

SPACE INVADERS, Denver, USA

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2021

Sistema Nuevo León para el impulso artístico y la creación 2021, CONARTE, Mexico

2018 – 2021

Sistema Nacional de Creadores, FONCA and CONACULTA, Mexico

2013

Acquisition prize Reseña, artwork Tunnel Mountain, Monterrey, Mexico

Scholarship for abroad residencies, FONCA and CONACULTA, Mexico

Jóvenes Creadores of FONCA and CONACULTA, Mexico City, México

2012 - 2014

Programa BBVA Bancomer-MACG Arte Actual 2012 – 2014, BBVA Bancomer and Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico

2011

Estímulo Fiscal a la Creación Artística CONARTE-Bricos, CONARTE, Mexico

2010

Jóvenes Creadores of FONECA, Nuevo León, Mexico

2009

Jóvenes Creadores of FONCA, Mexico City, Mexico

2008

La Colección/Fundación Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico

Jóvenes Creadores of FONECA, Nuevo León, Mexico

2007

Emergency Chechnya Biennale Prize, Istanbul, Turkey

Selection Salon National d'Art Contemporain du Cadre d'Or, Espace Pierre Cardin, Paris, France

2006

Jóvenes Creadores of FONECA, Nuevo León, Mexico

Selection XXVI Encuentro Nacional de Arte Joven, Aguascalientes, Mexico

Friends of Transart Institute MFA scholarship, Stockdale, USA

2004

Azúcar en la vía láctea, 2ª Bienal de Yucatán, Honored Mention, Yucatán, Mexico

COLLECTIONS

Colección Fundación M, Mexico City, Mexico

PUBLICATIONS

Your Deletion Was Successful: Drawings of Social Life at the End of All Times, Leo Marz, piedra ediciones with the support of Fundación Jumex

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

Currently

Director of the Curatorial Program of the CRGS-UDEM, Monterrey, Mexico

2018

Twice-Told Tales, Peana Projects. Monterrey, Mexico

2016 – 2018

Artistic Director of Lugar Común, Monterrey, Mexico

2015 – 2016

XII Bienal FEMSA local curator, Monterrey, Mexico

2011

Círculos de Confusión: Caos Social y Ficciones Dominantes, Transito_MX 04, Mexico City, Mexico

2008

Mixtapers 'R Us', grade exhibition of the Transart Institute 2006 – 2008 generation, O.K Centrum für Gegenwartskunst, Linz, Austria

2005 – 2009

Curator at *Object Not Found*, Monterrey, Mexico

CONFERENCES

2017

Fantasmas, Museo de Arte de Ciudad Juárez, Juarez City, Mexico

2015

Fantasmas, Feria del Libro Tijuana, Tijuana, Mexico

2014

Fantasmas, Feria Internacional del Libro Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Mexico

2013

El relato vence a la muerte, Documentaries Tour Ambulante, MARCO Museum, Monterrey, Mexico

2008

Metapong, American Association of Museums Annual Meeting, Denver, USA

2006

Metapong, Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, Italy

LECTURES

2018 – Currently

Bachelor of Arts' Academic Director at Universidad de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico

2017 – 2018

Professor of the Bachelor of Arts at Universidad de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico

2013 – 2015

Co-director of the transdisciplinary program *La Conversación*, Museo Felguérez, Zacatecas, Mexico

2009 – 2012

Subject professor at the CEDIM, Monterrey, Mexico

2009 – 2011

Invited workshop facilitator, La Curtiduría Centro de Artes Visuales, Oaxaca, Mexico

2008

Workshop about prejudices and perception through the arts, *Inside/Outside/North & South*, Museo de las Americas, Denver, USA