



Philadelphia's
**MAGIC
GARDENS**

1020 South Street Philadelphia PA 19147
phillymagicgardens.org | 215.733.0390

CALL TO VIEW “IN UNISON: CERAMIC WORKS BY GEORGE RODRIGUEZ”

Experience large-scale handcrafted ceramic sculptures in the galleries at Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens

WHAT:

Born and raised in the border city of El Paso, Texas, George Rodriguez creates large-scale decorative ceramic sculpture addressing his identity and community as a Mexican-American artist. In the exhibition In Unison, Rodriguez constructs a bridge between the past and present through symbols and imagery tied to his personal histories, collaboration, and community. He creates grand guardian figures, tomb sculptures, and shrines that depict his community members as ancient relics. Through collaboration, Rodriguez creates sculptures inspired by his peers and invites these artists to paint these ceramic works using their personal techniques. The collaborative works Rodriguez creates with his peers and mentors in the ceramic community are showcased alongside works inspired by the long-term relationships that influence his practice. The large scale of these works encourages community building by inspiring celebration and personal connections.

WHO:

George Rodriguez earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts in ceramics from the University of Texas El Paso and went on to receive his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Washington. Rodriguez traveled the world as a recipient of a Bonderman Travel Fellowship in 2010. His work can be found in various permanent collections, including the National Mexican Museum of Art in Chicago, the Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the National Museum of Sweden, amongst others.

WHERE:

Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens
1020 South Street
Philadelphia PA 19147

WHEN:

On View: July 21 – September 10, 2023
Opening Reception: Friday, July 21, 2023; 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Tour & Talk with George Rodriguez: Tuesday, July 25, 2023; 6:00 – 8:00 PM

ABOUT PHILADELPHIA’S MAGIC GARDENS:

Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens (PMG) is an immersive mixed media art environment that is completely covered with mosaics. The creator, Isaiah Zagar, used handmade tiles, bottles, bicycle wheels, mirror, and international folk art to chronicle his life and influences. The exploratory space is made up of two indoor galleries and a bi-level outdoor sculpture garden. As a nonprofit museum, PMG celebrates art in its many forms through community outreach, public programs, hands-on activities, exhibitions, and tours. We welcome everyone to explore the space and embrace the possibility of self-expression.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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