

KINGS Artist Run acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate. We offer our respect to Elders both past and present and extend this offer to all First Nations people.

# KINGS

*Sabino Esteban Francisco,  
Regina José Galindo, Sara Pérez,  
Rómulo Castro García & Leonel  
Alvarado, The Fire Theory, Juan  
Rodríguez Sandoval, Dany Ruiz,  
Archiving the Present*

*Curated by Glenda Mejía &  
Tania Cañas*

## ISTHMIC IMAGINARIES

MAY

14.05.26–07.06.26

*Artist Run*

Established in 2003, KINGS Artist-Run provides a location for contemporary art practice, supporting distinctive experimental projects by artists at all stages of their careers.

Open 12 - 5pm, Thursday - Friday  
12 - 4pm, Saturday - Sunday

69 Capel Street,  
West Melbourne VIC 3003

## GALLERY ONE

*Sabino Esteban Francisco, Regina José Galindo, Sara Pérez, Rómulo Castro García & Leonel Alvarado, The Fire Theory, Juan Rodríguez Sandoval, Dany Ruiz, Archiving the Present Curated by Glenda Mejía & Tania Cañas*

### Isthmic Imaginaries

Isthmic Imaginaries explores the cultural, political, and creative experiences of Central Americans.

The works illuminate the lived realities of Central Americans forging cultural imaginaries across distance. By bringing together sound, performance, visual art and poetry interventions, the project examines how artists engage with memory in ways that challenge nation-state narratives.

Anchored in the metaphor of the isthmus, a narrow landmass, the exhibition reimagines Central America not only as a geographic and historical region but as a space of in-betweenness, rupture, and possibility.

Through creative practice, Isthmic Imaginaries interrogates how Central Americans embody and transform memory, and how identities are reconfigured through displacement, colonial interruption, and local entanglements.

The works are in Nawat/Náhuat, Mayan Q'anjob'al, Māori, Spanish, Spanglish, and English.

Artwork details, inside (clockwise from entrance):

The Fire Theory (Melissa Guevara, Mauricio Kabistan, Crack Rodriguez), *El Juego (The Game)*, 2016, photograph (inkjet on paper), wood frame, synthetic plants, wicker and ceramic pots.

Sabino Esteban Francisco, *B'EYIL/ CARAVANA*, 2021, poem (acrylic).

Sara Pérez, *¿qué soy?*, 2022, digital still (inkjet on paper).

Regina José Galindo, *Guatemala feminicida, Ciudad de Guatemala*, 2022, film.

Leonel Alvarado & Rómulo Castro García, *El Sur que Soy / The South I Am*, 2017, single-channel video (sound), plant in ceramic pot.

Luis González Serrano, *Centroamérica Grandes Éxitos / Central American Greatest Hits*, 2019, poem (inkjet on paper).

Outside:

Archiving the Present, *Archiving the Present*, 2022, vinyl.

Juan Rodríguez Sandoval, *To make one's dwelling a home (Al hacer la casa de uno, un hogar)*, 2023, photograph (inkjet on paper).

Dr Glenda Mejía was born in Kuskatan and raised between lines: Kuskatan, Jagera Country, Meajin Country, and Naarm. She arrived under the humanitarian program in so-called australian seeking refugee. Her lineages come from San Pedro Nonualco and Sesori Lands. These days, Glenda lives, moves, un/learns, works, and breathes on the traditional Country of the Kulin Nation. She is an educator and scholar. Her work and un/learning focus on feminismos descoloniales from Abya Yala, migration/displacement entangled with memory, and sensing-thinking pedagogy. As a co-member of archiving the present, she collaborates in various community-based programs such as: Náhuat Saturday School and SHELF in which she collaborated with Dr. Tania Cañas and Arts Gen to develop a community curated library, with the focus on Central American texts.

Dr. Tania Cañas is a Kuskatlán –born artist-researcher who grew up on unceded Wadawurrung and Boonwurrung Kulin Nation Country. She was born the year of a terremoto and during the armed conflict. She arrived in so-called Australia as a child through the refugee and humanitarian program. Her lineages came from Usulután and La Unión. Her practice explores memory, displacement, and community-engaged creative processes, working across creative practice and collaborative research. She is currently a tangata Tiriti living in Aotearoa New Zealand as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for Arts and Social Transformation (CAST), Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland.