

Phoenix Art Museum Brings Mail Art to the monOrchid

Written by Nicole Royse

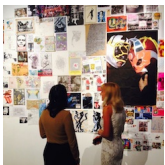
Sunday, 14 December 2014 15:57 - Last Updated Sunday, 14 December 2014 16:05



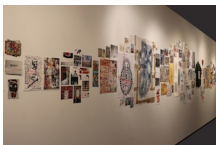
[Phoenix Art Museum](#) partners with [Shade Projects](#) and local gallery the monOrchid to bring their landmark mail art exhibition *Focus Latin America: Art Is Our Last Hope*.



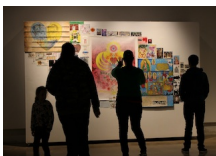
This is the first ever collaboration between the museum and a local gallery, bringing the community an incredible international exhibition of contemporary mail art organized coinciding with the Paulo Bruscky exhibition now view at Phoenix Art Museum. This captivating exhibition was curated by the Phoenix Art Museum's Shawn and Joe Lampe Curator of Latin American Art, Dr. Vanessa Davidson, assisted by Gabriela Muñoz and Averí Gutiérrez, as well as the Shade Projects Curator, Nicole Royse.



Shade Projects presents an expanded exhibition of *Focus Latin America: Art Is Our Last Hope*, with works received from over 440 artists from 35 countries. The Shade Gallery at the monOrchid allowed Dr. Davidson the opportunity to expand the exhibition to include further background on the mail art movement as well as its connection with contemporary artists participating in the exhibition. What is mail art? "Mail art is a form of communication between artists who exchange artworks via international postal networks without any expectation of financial compensation." Mail Art encompasses a variety of art forms, including postcards, photocopies, photographs, visual poetry, graphic works on paper, rubber-stamped pieces, drawings, collages, and found objects.



This exhibition was originally organized in conjunction with the current exhibition at Phoenix Art Museum entitled *Paulo Bruscky: Art is our Last Hope*. An impressive survey of Bruscky stunning work, exhibiting multifaceted pieces created between 1971 through 2011. "Bruscky participated in the international mail art movement, in which a network of artists from around the world exchanged artworks via the postal system using ready-made postal network to distribute their works internationally, these artistic revolutionaries circumvented both commercial and institutional infrastructures and connected directly with likeminded artists across the globe", stated Dr. Davidson.



An exhibition of this caliber offers the community a wonderful opportunity to experience an impressive variety of work and artists from around the world. For more information about *Focus Latin America: Art Is Our Last Hope* please visit: <http://phxartmail.tumblr.com/>. This exhibition will be on display in Shade Gallery at the [monorchid](#) until January 12th, 2015. The monOrchid is located at 214 E. Roosevelt Street in the heart of Phoenix's downtown arts district. Images courtesy of the Phoenix Art Museum and the monOrchid.

