



New Monuments for a Future Las Vegas

Nevada Humanities Virtual Exhibition Opens December 4, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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November 17, 2020—LAS VEGAS, NV— As part of the ongoing *Nevada Humanities Exhibition Series*, a new virtual exhibition, [New Monuments for a Future Las Vegas](#), curated by Wendy Kveck, opens online on December 4, 2020, at nevadahumanities.org and will be on display as a virtual exhibition indefinitely. *New Monuments for a Future Las Vegas* curator and artists' talk will take place as a live Zoom event at 7 pm on Thursday, January 7, 2021. View the exhibition online at nevadahumanities.org/exhibitionseries.

New Monuments for a Future Las Vegas presents the collaborative work of creative teams of artists who emphasize community and relationships while working to collectively-built futures. Team members include: Emily Budd and Laurence Myers Reese; Darren Johnson and Toshie McSwain; Holly Lay, Mary Sabo, and Lilia Todd; Yasmina Chavez and Julian Tanaka; Brent Holmes and Ashanti McGee; Nanda Sharif Pour and Ali Fathollahi; Sapira Cheuk and JK Russ; GULCH: Mikayla Whitmore, Justin Favela, Krystal Ramirez, Lance L. Smith; Jennifer Kleven and Quindo Miller; Tiffany Lin, Clarice Tara Cuda, and Karla Lagunas; Heidi Rider and Adriana Chavez; Alisha Kerlin and Emmanuel Muñoz; Erin K. Drew and Kristin Hough; John McVay and Aaron Cowan; Jung Min, Marc Luu and Dulce Maravilla; Chase McCurdy and Erica Vital-Lazare; Claire Vaye Watkins and Brent Holmes; and working independently Bertha Gutierrez, Denise Duarte, Fawn Douglas, and D.K. Sole.

This exhibition is shaped by questions about what and whom we choose to memorialize, what imagery and objects represent our values and history, whose stories are told, and who creates a monument. *New Monuments for a Future Las Vegas* is framed by the current conversations to remove Confederate monuments and mascots around the nation, and, alternately, the preservation of public lands and Native American sacred and cultural sites through Nevada's National Monuments (Gold Butte and Basin and Range) and current work on a proposed monument (Avi Kwa Ame). Artists have responded to this historical moment with a call to the purpose of imagining a better tomorrow.

"New Monuments for a Future Las Vegas brings together teams of Nevada artists to reflect on and envision Nevada's monuments - both real and imagined," says Christina Barr, Nevada Humanities Executive Director. "This exhibition reminds us how important it is to collaborate even when we are necessarily kept apart due to COVID-19 social distancing mandates. This is

exactly what the humanities in this exhibition bring to this conversation - the ability to examine our present circumstances and collectively envision and reach for a reimagined world.”

“The idea for this exhibition took shape last spring while teaching the inaugural Las Vegas Seminar in Visual Arts at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The students and artists who visited the class inspired me as we explored their work and ideas,” said Wendy Kveck exhibition curator and founder of the online project [Settlers + Nomads](#). “In class we considered the different ways that the visual culture and histories of Las Vegas have influenced artists’ work over the decades and how Las Vegas has been written about and presented to audiences in and outside of Nevada.”

Visit the virtual exhibition on the Nevada Humanities website at [nevadahumanities.org](#). A conversation between the curator and some participating artists will take place on Zoom on Thursday, January 7, 2021, at 7 pm. Register for this virtual event at [nevadahumanities.org/exhibitionseries](#).

About Settlers + Nomads: Founded in 2015, Settlers + Nomads is an online project collecting interviews, essays, events, image galleries, and other material into a growing compendium of information about contemporary art connected to southern Nevada. For more information about Settlers + Nomads visit [settlersandnomads.art](#).

About Nevada Humanities: Nevada Humanities is one of 56 independent, nonprofit state and territorial humanities councils affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. With offices in Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada Humanities creates public programs and supports public projects statewide that define the Nevada experience and facilitate the exploration of issues that matter to the people of Nevada and their communities. For more information about Nevada Humanities visit [nevadahumanities.org](#).

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