

Pan American Art Projects

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IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE: Collective Exhibition

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I recently caught myself looking at an image taken not that long ago of a New Year's celebratory scene in Times Square and took a quick deep breath as I thought "Look at all these people gathering together so close, so many, and not a mask in sight!" This moment has happened to many of us in recent times, watching old movies, looking at photo albums, and almost forgetting what it was like to live together, as a people, bonding, celebrating, mourning, experiencing.

IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE is both a celebration of those moments, full of people, full of life, the shared human experience, and a recognition of their absence today. There are also images of empty spaces, devoid of human presence, this too is our shared human experience. In many ways, we do have to imagine a time when all the people come out of their shelters to unite and celebrate our resilience, lick our wounds, and look to the future together again.

This exhibition is a call to diversity and to acceptance of the difference in a world to which we all belong equally. That is why we chose to exhibit in the Grey Salon the photographs from the '70s of Randal Levenson, who has investigated ethnic groups close to his experience, documenting the lives of Mexicans, Americans, unusual people from the circus. In the main exhibit hall, we counterbalanced this with photographs from our collection, with works by Marta Maria Perez Bravo, J. Roberto Diago, Luis Gonzalez Palma, Rene Pena, Santiago Porter, Tracey Snelling, Jose Angel Toirac, among others.

Also, we will have an Online Viewing Room dedicated to Jose Manuel Fors, a very well-known Cuban photographer from the *Volumen I* and the 80's Generation, who has received the National Award for Lifetime Achievement. We will be presenting not only some of his works but the story behind them: from how Fors began capturing reality, looking for his identity, to his most recurrent visual appearance based on the fragmentation of memory.