



MELANIE CERVANTES

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CONTACT

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EDUCATION

2004 BA Ethnic Studies University of California, Berkeley

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

2007-Present Artist and Printmaker, Dignidad Rebelde

Member of a graphic arts collaboration dedicated to creating and distributing screen printed political posters and to put the artwork back in the hands of the communities who inspire them.

2004- February 2016 Senior Program Officer, Akonadi Foundation

Develop and implement the Akonadi Foundation's grantmaking programs and long-term strategy that supports a racial justice movement that can finally put an end to the structural racism that lies at the heart of social inequity in the United States.

AWARDS

2016 Amplifier Foundation Grant

2015 Community Award, National Association of Chicana/Chicano Studies, Dignidad Rebelde

2012 NALAC Fund for the Arts, Dignidad Rebelde

2011 CultureStrike Artist Award, Dignidad Rebelde

2010 State of California Senate Recognition, Dignidad Rebelde

2010 Exemplary Leadership award for Dignidad Rebelde by San Francisco State University

2010 Best Political Artist Collective, Best of the Bay, East Bay Express

2009 Biennial of Graphic Arts, Justseeds, Grand Prize Winner, Ljubljana, Slovenia

2009 Artists of the Month award, Inkworks Press

2008 Organizers Pick award, National Art of Politics exhibit

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 2012- May 2014 Galeria de la Raza Board

Founded in 1970, the Galería is a non-profit community-based arts organization whose mission is to foster public awareness and appreciation of Chicano/Latino art and serve as a laboratory where artists can both explore contemporary issues in art, culture and civic society, and advance intercultural dialogue.

November 2008- Present Justseeds/Visual Resistance Artists' Co-operative Member

Member of a decentralized co-operative of artists who have banded together to both sell their work online in a central location and to collaborate with and support each other and social movements.

November 2008-2010 Consejo Grafico de Talleres Member

The Consejo Gráfico is an independent network of print workshops that has formed to advance the legacy and viability of Latino printmaking in the United States.

TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS AS DIGNIDAD REBELDE

- 2015 *La Cultura Cura: An Exhibit of Work by Dignidad Rebelde*, EastSide Arts Annex + La Cultura Cura Café, Oakland, CA
- 2014 *Ink and Protest*, Chabot College, Hayward, CA
- 2013 *Future Ancestors*, Solespace, Oakland, CA
- 2013 *Dignidad Rebelde: Signs of Solidarity*, Multicultural Center, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2013 *Dignidad Rebelde: Prints for the People*, Taller Arte del Nuevo Amanecer, Woodland, CA
- 2012 *Dignidad Rebelde*, Instituto de Artes Gráficas de Oaxaca, Centro, Oaxaca
- 2012 *Dignidad Rebelde: La Nueva Gráfica Xicana*, Espacio Zapata, Centro, Oaxaca
- 2012 *Dignidad Rebelde: An Exhibition of Prints and Posters*, Arte Americas, Fresno, CA
- 2012 *Dignidad Rebelde: An Exhibition of Prints and Posters*, Artillery Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2012 *Portraits of Resistance*, Cafe Gabriela, Oakland, CA
- 2011 *Seeds of Liberation*, Addison Street Windows Gallery, Berkeley, CA
- 2011 *Prints For the People*, Cultural Heritage Center at San Jose State University, MLK Jr. Library, San Jose, CA
- 2011 *Rise Up!: the Art of Dignidad Rebelde*, Artillery Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 *In the Spirit of the Living and the Dead*, Michigan State University Museum, E. Lansing, MI
- 2010 *Dignidad Rebelde: third world Artists in Action*, UC Berkeley Multicultural Community Center, Berkeley, CA
- 2009 *Art in Action: Dignidad Rebelde*, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 *Tierra Y Libertad: Dignidad Rebelde*, East Side Arts Alliance, Oakland, CA
- 2009 *Dignidad Rebelde: The Art of Protest* Pueblo Nuevo Gallery, Berkeley, CA
- 2008 *Papel y Tinta: The Artwork of Jesus Barraza & Melanie Cervantes*, The Front, San Diego, CA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *Cross: A Culture Lab on Intersectionality*, Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, Washington, DC
- 2016 *Take This Hammer*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 *Hablamos Juntos*, Museo Eduardo Carillo, Online Exhibition
- 2016 *FTP: For the People*, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 *Womxn Are Perfect!*, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 *Public Square*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 2015 *Burning Ice*, Euphrat Museum of Art, Cupertino, CA
- 2015 *The Bones of Our Ancestors*, Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 2015 *Rituals and Remembrance*, Installation, Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA

- 2015 *Tribute to the Disappeared*, Malcolm X and Betty Shabazz Memorial and Education Center, New York City, NY
- 2015 *Voces de Aztlán: Chicana/o Urban Art Reconstruction*, Burton Barr Central Library, Phoenix AZ
- 2015 *Armed by Design/El Diseño a las Armas*, Interference Archive, Brooklyn NY
- 2015 *En Nuestro Imagen*, Pajaro Valley Arts Council, Watsonville, CA
- 2015 *Indigenous Flux: Native Artists Honoring Their Roots Through Contemporary Art*, Hayward Area Historical Society, Hayward, CA
- 2015 *No Human Being is Illegal: Poster on the Myths and Realities of the Immigrant Experience*, Mercado La Paloma, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 *Re-Visions*, Uptown Body and Fender, Oakland, CA
- 2015 *Latino Art Now!* Exhibition, MACLA, San Jose, CA
- 2015 *Mujeres: Selected Prints from the Serie Project*, Print Austin, Austin, TX
- 2015 *¡Revolución! Revolution*, Eric Dean Gallery, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, IN
- 2014 *War is Trauma*, Veteran's Day Exhibit with Iraq Veterans Against the War, Eric Quezada Center for Culture and Politics, San Francisco, CA
- 2014 *5th Annual Chicana/o Biennial*, MACLA, San Jose, CA
- 2014 *SEP 11 Self-Determination Inside/Out*, Interference Archive, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 *Translations: Prints by Consejo Grafico*, Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts, Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, IN
- 2014, *Chicano Dream*, Musée d'Aquitaine, Bordeaux, France
- 2014 *Women of the Serie Project*, Mexic-Arte Museum, Austin, TX
- 2014 *We Honor the Art of Activism*, Gathering of Nations, Warehouse 508, Albuquerque, NM
- 2014 *La Autonomia es La Vida, La Sumision es La Muerte*, Solespace, Oakland, CA
- 2014 *International Women's Day Poster Exhibit*, Café Coop L'Artere, Montreal, Canada
- 2014 *Diamond Leave: Printing in Progress*, Museum of Printing History, Houston, TX
- 2014 *Illustrating Anarchy and Revolution*, Mexic-Arte Museum, Austin, TX
- 2014 *Solo Mujeres: Women That Byte*, Mission Cultura Center, San Francisco, CA
- 2014 *Serigrafia*, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Pasadena, CA
- 2014 *Resurfacing*, Mission Cultural, San Francisco, CA
- 2014 *Boycott! The Art of Economic Activism*, Traveling Exhibit, Center for the Study of Political Graphics
- 2013 *The Art of Resistance: Intersections and Alliances through Artivism*, Greenpeace Rainbow Warrior Ship
- 2013 *Graphicanos: Contemporary Latino Prints from the Serie Project*, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Fort Wayne, IN
- 2013 *Visible Movement: The Arts of Idle No More*, John Summers Gallery, University of New Mexico
- 2013 *We are the 99%*, AR/GE Kunst Gallery, Bozen/Bolzano, Italy
- 2013 *Empujando Tinta: Taller Tupac Amaru, Ten Years of Collaborative Activism*, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
- 2013 *Taller Tupac Amaru: Jesus Barraza, Melanie Cervantes and Favianna Rodriguez*, Thacher Gallery, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
- 2013 *In Colab*, Taller Boricua, New York, NY

- 2013 *Migration Now: Designs for a Migrant Spring*, The Eric Quezada Center, San Francisco, CA
- 2013 *Prison Nation: Posters on the Prison Industrial Complex*, UC Merced Kolligian Library, Merced, CA
- 2013 *Signature Works: 25th Anniversary Gifts to the Permanent Collection*, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
- 2012 *Sowing the Seeds of Love*, Munch Gallery, New York, NY
- 2012 *12th International Poster Biennial of Mexico*, Museo Franz Mayer, Mexico City, MX
- 2012 *agitPop: Protest Becomes Graphic*, San Diego Mesa College, San Diego, CA
- 2012 *Serigrafía*, UC Davis Design Museum, Davis, CA
- 2012 *9 + 1 Ways of Being Political: 50 Years of Political Stances in Architecture and Urban Design*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- 2012 *New Constructions out of the Old*, Gallerie Neurotitan, Berlin, Germany
- 2012 *Serie Project at the Center for Mexican American Studies*, The University of Texas at Austin, TX
- 2012 *Consejo Grafico*, St. Mary's College at the Moreau Art Galleries, Notre Dame, IN
- 2012 *This is an Emergency: Radical Print Portfolio Exhibit*, Providence, RI
- 2012 *YLA 17: Grafficanos & Serie Print Project XIX*, Mexic-Arte, Austin, TX
- 2012 *Occupy Bay Area*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Oakland, CA
- 2012 *Ni de aqui, Ni de alla: An Unplaced Space*, MOVO, Oakland, CA
- 2012 *DocumentO*, Kronswork, Oakland, CA
- 2012 *Undocunation*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, CA
- 2012 *La Bracera: Women and Work*, Yippies Museum, New York, NY
- 2012 *Tomando Las Calles*, Project Grow Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2012 *All of Us or None: Social Justice Posters of the San Francisco Bay Area*, Oakland Museum, Oakland, Ca
- 2012 *The Chicana/o Biennial*, Movimiento de Arte Cultura Latino Americana, San Jose, CA
- 2012 *The 100th Anniversary of The Bread And Roses Strike*, ILWU Local 21, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 *En Papel: A Contemporary Look at Latino Printmakers in the US*, Mission Cultural Center, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 *Mujeres del Consejo Grafico*, La Pena, Austin, TX
- 2011 *This is What Democracy Looks Like*, Gallatin Galleries, New York, NY
- 2011 *Honoring Our Ancestors*, Contra Costa College, San Pablo, CA
- 2011 *Make Tacos Not War: Artists Respond to War*, Wildcat Loft, Napa, CA
- 2011 *Labor+a(r)t+orio: Bay Area Latin@ Arts Now*, The Jerry Adams Gallery at Berkeley City College, Berkeley, CA
- 2011 *Latin@ Printmakers Show: Grabados de Paz y Guerra*, The Jerry Adams Gallery at Berkeley City College, Berkeley, CA
- 2011 *Refuge, Biennial of Graphic Arts*, Galerija Alkatraz, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2011 *Galeria 4.0 Retrospective*, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 *Resistance : Indigenous Survival in the Americas*, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 *Pacific States Biennial National Print Exhibition*, Mestizo Coffeehouse, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2010 *No Human Being is Illegal! Posters on the Myths and Realities of Immigration*, UC Santa Barbara Multicultural Center, Santa Barbara, CA

- 2010 *Out of the Closet and Into the Street: Posters of the LGBTQ Struggle* ONE Archives Gallery & Museum, West Hollywood, CA
- 2010 *Exposición Gráfica Justseeds*, ZAM (Zona Autónoma Makhnovtchina), Mexico City, Mexico
- 2010 *The Art of Politics: Three Generations of Bay Area Printmakers*, MACLA, San Jose, CA
- 2010 *¡Raza! Cultura, politica y tradicion!*, Sol Collective, Sacramento, CA
- 2010 *Gracias A La Vida*, Pueblo Nuevo Gallery, Berkeley, CA
- 2010 *Shouts from the Wall*, Leeway Foundation, Philadelphia, PA
- 2010 *Art Against Empire Graphic Responses to U.S. Intervention Since World War II*, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 *Manifest Equality*, 1341 Vine, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 *Justseeds: Paper Politics for a New Decade*, Hillyer Art Space at International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC
- 2009 *Todos Somos Chiapas*, Mestizo Institute of Cultural Arts, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2009 *Altars for the Spirits: Offerings for the Living*, SomArts, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 *Mirando al Sur: Looking South*, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2009 *JustSeeds: Paper Politics for a New Decade*, Hillyer Art Space, Washinton, DC
- 2009 *Movimientos: Two Generations of Chicana Artist*, Union Art Gallery, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI
- 2009 *Which Side are You On*, Union Art Gallery, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
- 2009 *Prints and Posters by the Taller Tupac Amaru*, Asian Resource Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2009 *Just Seeds*, May-June 2009 Le Cagibi, Montreal, Canada
- 2009 *Stop the Armed Forces: An Exhibition of Conscience Art Against Police Brutality*, 2323 E. Olympic, Los Angeles, CA
- 2009 *Gema: Dando a Luz Al Arte de Mujer*, Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, Texas, CA
- 2009 *Anti-Police Brutality Show*, Mama Buzz, Oakland, CA
- 2009 *Strange Hope: an ephemeral exhibition celebrating new beginnings*, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 *Art and the Body Politick*, Red Door Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2009 *Creando Fuerza: Cambio y Permanencia*, Mexic Arte, Austin, TX
- 2009 *Espada de dos Filos, Latina Voices: California-New York*, Art Americas, Fresno, CA
- 2009 *Immigration and the Border: A Chicana/ Art Exhibit*, Valley Oak Elementary, Davis, CA
- 2008 *Winter Open Studios*, Taller Tupac Amaru Studio, Oakland, CA
- 2008 *Printed: An Exhibition About Hand Printed Art*, Crewest, Los Angeles, CA
- 2008 *Exonome: Exhibition of Ibero-american artists in California*, Consulate General of Mexico, San Francisco, CA
- 2008 *8th Annual Day of the Dead Exhibition 2008*, Back to the Picture Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2008 *Speak Out: Art, Design and Politics*, 516 Arts, Albuquerque, NM
- 2008 *Berkeley Has a Censorship Issue!*, Art of Democracy, Pueblo Nuevo Gallery, Berkeley, CA
- 2008 *Salud! A Celebration of Latino Art, Health and Community*, JanRae Gallery of the Women's Cancer Resource Center, Oakland, CA
- 2008 *A Declaration of Immigration*, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
- 2008 *The Art of Politics* Backspace and The Someday Lounge, Seattle, CA
- 2008 *Pro Arts East Bay Open Studios*, Taller Tupac Amaru Studio, Oakland, CA

- 2008 *Reclaiming the “F” Word: Posters on International Feminism*, The Art Galleries, California State University, Northridge, CA
- 2008 *Somos Medicina*, Self-Help Graphics, Los Angeles, CA
- 2008 *Fuerte como el amor/ Womyn: bold as love*, The Front, San Diego, CA
- 2008 *Black and Brown Vision” Banner Installation*, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA
- 2008 *YO! What Happened to Peace*, Jack Hanley Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2007-8 *Radical Graphics of the Taller Tupac Amaru*, Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2007 *Internal Exile: From Palestine to the USA to Mexico*, SomArts, San Francisco, CA
- 2005 *Pilipino American Alliance: Filipinos for Veterans Rights*, Capoeira Arts Café, Berkeley, CA
- 2005 *National Queer Arts Festival: ‘Hijas de Coyolxauhqui’*, Corazon del Pueblo, Oakland, CA
- 2005 *Motivo*, Corazon del Pueblo, Oakland, CA
- 2004 *Xicana/o Codices*, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
- 2003 *War on (Proposition) 54*, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- 2015 *Armed By Design/ El Diseño a las Armas* portfolio, Interference Archive, Brooklyn, NY
- 2015 *Unceded Voices, Decolonizing Street Art Convergence*, Three murals, Montreal, Canada
- 2015 Screenprint demonstration, Othering and Belonging Conference, Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society
- 2014 *Looking Forward (Home is Where the Heart Is), Seeing Back Mural and , 5x5 A Project of the Washington DC Commission on Arts and Humanities*
- 2014 *Un-Settling Alliances: Connecting Our Liberation* portfolio, Southern Graphics Council’s 42nd Annual Conference: Bridges: Spanning Tradition, Innovation and Activism, San Francisco CA
- 2013 Remembering Who We Are: Exploring artistic & creative sociopolitical memory, and art in social change movements. A day of presentations, exhibitions, a resource archive, video screenings, discussions, participatory zine-making, and more.
- 2012 Justicia y Dignidad:
Art skills training and collaboration with three human rights organizations based in Arizona who empower the people most impacted by our broken immigration system to create social change.
- 2012 This is an Emergency
Designed print for portfolio and interview project that focuses on reproductive rights and gender justice.
- 2012 Current Preoccupations (Palestine, Oakland, and Arizona)
Institute for Diversity in the Arts talk and print triptych art commission with Jesus Barraza and poet Mark Gonzales.

- 2012 Serie Project XIX
Participated in portfolio and residency with Serie Project housed at Coronado Studios.
- 2012 Migration Now
Produced poster for the limited-edition portfolio of handmade prints addressing migrant issues from Justseeds & CultureStrike.
- 2012 Activists Artists Gathering in Oakland
Design team and participant in activist artists gathering.
- 2012 SFAI Youth Art Workshops
- 2011 Indigenous Sovereignty Week-Edmonton - Occupied Amiskwaciwaskahikan
Designed poster for conference
- 2010 10 Steps to Designing a Poster
Poster making workshop for 35 youth with the ACLU of Northern California's Friedman Project.
- 2010 Rebelate! A Printmaking Workshop
Taught a screen-printing workshop at the Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana in San Jose.
- 2010 Alto Arizona Art Campaign April 2010
Created posters for a viral art campaign organized by the National Day Laborer Organizing Network in protest of Arizona's SB 1070.
- 2009 Political Artist Atelier at Self-Help Graphics
Co-taught a poster making workshop for high school youth in preparation for May Day immigrant mobilizations.
- 2009 Alternative Spring Break, Spanish Speaking Citizens Foundation, Oakland
Co-taught a poster making workshop for high school youth in preparation for May Day immigrant mobilizations.
- 2009 Political Poster Making Workshops, Social Justice Academy, San Leandro High
Co-taught a poster making workshop for high school youth, which culminated in a community exhibit.
- 2008 Evolution of a Sacred Space: Días de los Muertos, Oakland Museum
Taught a stencil making workshop for Huastec youth members and designed sidewalk chalk mural.
- 2008 Festival de Los Nuevos Vientos, Ecatepec Mexico
Participated in International arts festival by teaching workshops, presenting panels and installing street art.

- 2008 Voices from the Outside: Artists Against the Prison Industrial Complex September
Produced poster for the portfolio for Critical Resistance 10th Anniversary, 100 were printed and distributed at conference in Oakland.
- 2007 Galería de La Raza's Youth and Media Project
As a satellite of this project taught a stencil making workshop for youth graduates of program.
- 2007 Ancient Roots/Urban Journeys: Expressions for Dia de los Muertos, Oakland Museum
Designed sidewalk chalk mural with youth from EastSide Arts Alliance and Huaxtec.
- 2007 Triple Threat, Mama Buzz Café, Oakland CA
Coordinated art donation and auction to benefit Youth Together.
- 2005 100 Families: Art and Social Change- East Oakland
Artist in a project that celebrates the power of families and neighborhoods in Oakland, through the transformative process of creating art that promotes hope, action, and beauty.
- 2005 ENDdependence Spoken Word and Artist's Collective 4th Annual California Tour
Exhibited artwork and gave spoken word performances.
- 2005 Guerilla Art Tactics Class for Youth Making Changes Freedom School
Taught stencil making, graffiti and other street art along with political education around social justice issues.
- 2004 Día de los Muertos Workshops, Richmond Arts Center Nov
Taught traditional Mexican and Indigenous arts such as sugar skull making and paper dolls.
- 2004 Día de los Muertos Workshops, University of California, Berkeley
Taught traditional Mexican Sugar Skull Making.
- 2004 Costume Design "When All Our Ghosts Come to Visits" by Cherrie Moraga 2004
Designed and constructed costumes and stage backdrop for Sequoia Elementary performance of Moraga's play.

KEYNOTE LECTURES AND CONFERENCES

- 2016 "Art and Feminism: A Platica with Melanie Cervantes of Dignidad Rebelde ", Puente, Phoenix, AZ
- 2016 "Dreaming Beyond the Struggle", Roundtable, AF3IRM, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 "Abolition and the Radical Imagination", Panel with Angela Y. Davis, Agape, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 Art and Activism Panel hosted by W. Kamau Bell, Greenlining Economic Summit, Oakland, CA
- 2016 "A Night with Melanie Cervantes", Lecture, Missouri State University, Colombia, MO
- 2016 "Sisters At the Center: The Art of Dignidad Rebelde", Lecture, Sonoma State University, Sonoma, CA

- 2016 Annual MUJERcitas Conference, Keynote Lecture, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2016 “International Women’s Day”, Lecture, De Anza College, Cupertino, CA
- 2016 “Art as a Form of Resistance”, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY
- 2014 Howard Zinn Book Fair Platica, Panel discussion, Mission High School, San Francisco, CA
- 2013 “The Art of Resistance: Intersections and Alliances through Artivism”, Panel, Greenpeace Rainbow Warrior Ship
- 2013 “Hybridism: Artist as Activist” Panel presentation hosted by Leeway Foundation at Temple Contemporary, Philadelphia, PA
- 2013 “Building Utopia: Stitching the Lessons from Stories and Visions of Women in Our Lives” Keynote presentation at The Scholar and the Feminist: Utopia Conference, Barnard College.
- 2012 “Latino Arts and Culture Under Oppression, Censorship and Racism” Panel presentation at National Association of Latino Arts and Culture annual conference.
- 2012 Cal State University East Bay, Dept. of Ethnic Studies Scholarship Awards Keynote talk on the importance of my Ethnic Studies training in my art practice.
- 2012 Facing Race, Applied Research Center Art and Agitation: The Power of Cultural Strategy- panel presentation.
- 2012 Daughters of the Shaking Earth: Bay Area Latina Artists Symposium Stanford University organized symposium of Chicana/Latina artists.
- 2012 Indigenous Arts & Activism Lecture with Melanie Cervantes and Jesus Barraza Sand Francisco Art Institute Urban Studies, the Indigenous Arts Coalition, and Student Union host Dignidad Rebelde lecture.
- 2012 22nd Annual California Studies Conference-How Democratic Is California “Popular Media Organizing: From Posters to Blogs” panel.
- 2012 Honoring Women’s Rights Conference Women’s Caucus for the Arts West Coast Conference guest speaker.
- 2011 Drawing Inspiration 40 Years & Counting: Living the Legacy of Attica and George Jackson Honoring the living legacy of the 40th anniversaries of George Jackson’s assassination and the Attica prison uprising, Drawing Inspiration 40 years and Counting: Living the Legacy of Attica and George Jackson features the work and wisdom of Bay Area culture workers influenced by these events.
- 2011 Latino Artists Respond to the Call of the Occupy Movement

- Featured artists in one day symposium at Mission Cultural Center in San Francisco.
- 2011 Transnational Feminist Exchange
- Exchange and discussion of local and global issues between 20 international organizers and 5 local leaders hosted by Mills College Ethnic Studies Department and Global Fund for Women.
- 2011 Generating Protest Art Panel
- Slideshow and artist talk for students in the Center for New Media and the Art Practice, UC Berkeley.
- 2010 Visual Framing for Racial Justice
- Presentation at the Applied Research Center's Facing Race Conference on how to think about visual messaging in alignment with movement building for racial justice.
- 2010 Turning the Tide Summit Designed art workshop for the Turning the Tide Summit brought together over 180 community members and organizers to learn from each other and develop plans for fighting against the continued criminalization of the immigrant community.
- 2010 Communication for Our Liberation
- Panel participant at United States Social Forum. Presented on community based art methodologies for grassroots communications strategies.
- 2010 12 hour Printmaking Marathon
- Organized community based printmaking marathon to create Arizona solidarity and pro-migrant rights art at Self Help Graphics in East Los Angeles, CA.
- 2010 May Day Art
- Organized intergenerational community art day for 40 + participants in Oakland Sin Fronteras Coalition to create art for May Day march.
- 2010 Decolonizing the University: Fulfilling the Dream of the Third World College
- Lecture and workshop on the role of and strategy of using political graphics as a part of campus and community campaigns and social movements.
- 2010 Shaping San Francisco: Art and Politics
- Lecture and slideshow on my role & the intersection of art and politics in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- 2009 Creating Radical Graphics for Our Liberation: An anti-imperialist forum
- One-day mini-conference for Bay Area political printmakers to reflect on recent campaigns, define shared goals and plan a strategy for the future.
- 2009 The State of Latino Studies Conference, University of Chicago

- Panel of the Consejo Grafico. Presented on the historic role of political posters as well as the contemporary use of posters in the emerging student movements for public education.
- 2009 Abolition Now! Artists and Activists Against the Prison Industrial Complex
Talk on how culture and media that aims to build towards a world without prisons.
- 2009 Protest, Brutality & Ink
Panel on racial profiling, police brutality and the murder of Oscar Grant, plus the role of arts, culture & propaganda in the social justice movement.
- 2009 Artists in the Struggle: Creating Radical Graphics as part of the Global Movement for Social Justice
Presentation at University of California, Berkeley
- 2009 Music, Movement and Political Posters San Francisco State University
Presentation at San Francisco State University
- 2008 Applied Research Center's National Facing Race Conference
Presentation "Rebelate! Using Radical Graphics & Designing for Racial Justice"
- 2008 Tides Momentum Conference
Hosted Open Space discussion "Radical Graphics, Posters and Movement Building"
- 2008 Encuentro Xicana/o, UC Berkeley
Featured speaker in Xicana/o Artist Plenary moderated by Laura Perez.

COMMISSIONS

- 2016 People's Summit, three poster designs, National Nurses Association Chicago, IL
- 2016 International Women's Month, 10 portrait series for Sons and Brothers project of The California Endowment
- 2016 "I Am Because We Are" Mother's Day e-card for Forward Together's Strong Families project.
- 2015 "Restore Harmony Con La Madre Tierra" Designed a poster to promote the People's Climate Movement day of action.
- 2015 "Resources Belong to the People" Designed a poster for the California Environmental Justice Alliance annual Congreso.
- 2015 "100 Women, 100 Miles, Pilgrimage to the Pope" Designed graphic for posters and banners for We Belong Together's 100-mile pilgrimage from a detention center in York County, Pennsylvania to Washington, DC. Set to arrive when the Pope will be speaking in Congress and meeting with the President, they will walk carrying stories from a site of human suffering to the Pope with a message of human dignity.

- 2015 “Celebrando Nuestro Legado, Asegurando Nuestro Futuro”, Designed poster for UC Berkeley’s Chicana/o Latina/o Alumni Legacy event.
- 2015 “I Get It From My Mama” Mother’s Day e-card for Forward Together’s Strong Families project.
- 2015 “Divest From Prisons” Designed poster for Enlace International’s Prison Divestment Campaign.
- 2015 “Stanford Raza Day” Designed poster for MeCha de Stanford’s annual Raza Day event.
- 2014 “In Xochitil, In Cuicatl” print edition for MACLA Community Supported Arts Program.
- 2014 “UC Berkeley Raza Day” Designed poster for UC Berkeley’s annual Raza Day event.
- 2014 “Research As Ceremony, Decolonizing Ethnic Studies” Poster design for annual National Association for Ethnic Studies Conference.
- 2014 “25 Years of American Cultures at UC Berkeley” Designed poster for the American Cultures Center anniversary.
- 2014 “Not One More Inch” Poster design for Lipan Apache Band of Texas.
- 2013 UC Berkeley Law National Law Guild chapter t-shirt, sticker and tote bag design.
- 2013 “Build Strong Communities Not Prisons and Jails” Poster design Californians for a Responsible Budget.
- 2013 “Together We Can” promotional poster.
Designed a poster to promote Chris Crass’ book Towards Collective Liberation: Anti-Racist Organizing, Feminist Praxis, and Movement Building Strategy, PM Press.
- 2013 Richard Oakes Multicultural Center Library, Designed second poster series to promote banned books week at San Francisco State University.
- 2012 “Make Deadbeat Corporations Pay” digital graphic.
Designed a graphic to call attention to the impact of the “Fiscal Cliff” in partnership with the Art Strike and Rebuild America.
- 2012 Coalición de Derechos Humanos' Corazón de Justicia Event
Designed a poster edition to support annual fundraiser.
- 2012 National Domestic Workers Alliance-Leading with Love
Designed art print as an award for anniversary event.
- 2012 Strong Families, Forward Together
Designed poster for civic engagement campaign.

- 2012 Richard Oakes Multicultural Center Library
Designed poster series to promote banned books week at San Francisco State University.
- 2012 Unite to Fight | Unase Pa' Luchar
Designed print edition for 15 year anniversary of multiracial economic justice organization.
- 2012 California State University East Bay, Department of Ethnic Studies
Designed web banner for the Department of Ethnic Studies website.
- 2012 Strong Families, Forward Together
Designed card for Mama's Day campaign.
- 2012 California Institute of Integral Studies
Designed poster for Dia de los Muertos.
- 2012 End the (Labor Protections)Exclusions Poster California Domestic Workers Project & UFW
Poster design for Sacramento rally around AB 1313 and AB 889.
- 2012 Indignación –Spanish Newspaper of the Occupy Movement
Designed centerfold poster for International Workers Day.
- 2011 A Culture of Cruelty: Abuse and Impunity in Short-Term U.S. Border Patrol Custody
Designed poster and collateral to promote No More Death's report of border patrol abuses.
- 2011 Discover Your Love of Revolution
Designed poster as a fundraiser for prison abolition organization Critical Resistance.
- 2011 Protect Sogorea Te
Designed poster for the Protect Glen Cove Coalition to promote sacred site protection campaign.
- 2011 Enlace International
Designed poster for National Divestment from Private Prison Profiteering Campaign.
- 2011 Youth Justice Institute 10 Year Anniversary
Designed poster, invites, sweatshirt for anniversary of juvenile justice organization.
- 2011 Somos Georgia Poster
Designed digital poster as a call to action for Georgia residents concerned with migrant justice.
- 2011 Tierra y Libertad
Grassroots fundraising collateral design for inter-generational community based organization in Tucson.

- 2011 Tribute to Victor Jara
Poster installation/mural for the 11th Annual Hecho en Califas Festival.
- 2010 Transforming Lives/Transforming Communities
Anniversary poster for Mujeres Unidas y Activas a Latina immigrant organization in Oakland and San Francisco.
- 2010 Our Lands, Our Rights, Our Future Generations
Poster design for International Indian Treaty Council's international indigenous women's symposium.
- 2010 San Francisco State University Race and Resistance Studies Bookmark
Designed a bookmark to promote new "Race and Resistance Studies" minor at San Francisco State University.
- 2010 Grassroots Global Justice Alliance
Design banner, patches and bandanas for United States Social Forum presence of international organization.
- 2010 La Red Xicana Indigena
Designed two posters for Xicana queer performances and readings by Cherrie Moraga and Adelina Anthony.
- 2010 Xianxtli
Logo design for Xicana@ campus organization.
- 2010 Night of Cultural Resistance
Commissioned public art installation and live art piece for UC Berkeley annual arts festival.
- 2009 National Domestic Worker Congress
Designed poster with Jesus Barraza for Mujeres Unidas y Activas to educate young incarcerated parents about their rights.
- 2009 Eighth Annual (2009) Ethnic Studies Conference
Designed poster and sweatshirt design for 1000 student conference on importance of Ethnic Studies.
- 2009 Young Mother's Bill of Rights
Designed poster for Center for Young Women's Development to promote Youth Mother's Bill of Rights.
- 2009 Stencilada
Stenciled panel created for installation at CELLSpace in San Francisco.
- 2009 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Poster
Collaborated with Jesus Barraza on poster for a reunion of Xicana organizers.

- 2009 Justice for Andrew Moppin Poster and Banner
Collaborated with Jesus Barraza on poster for Intertribal Friendship House community forum. Designed and lead the creation of a memorial banner for Indian youth, Andrew Moppin, who was killed by Oakland police.
- 2008 RYSE Youth Center Inaugural Poster
Produced poster for youth center opening in Richmond.
- 2008 Art is a Human Right Poster Project
Produced poster for a statewide campaign. 1000 were printed and distributed in Ecatepec, Mexico.
- 2008 Indigenous People’s Night of Resistance, University of California, Berkeley
Produced design in collaboration with Jesus Barraza for event materials.
- 2008 Tides Center’s Momentum Conference Poster
Produced commemorative poster for the Tides conference.
- 2008 International Immigrant Rights Poster Project
Produced poster for the project, 2000 were printed and distributed at TIGRA conference in Mexico City.
- 2008 Encuentro Xicana/o, UC Berkeley
Designed conference materials corroboratively with Jesus Barraza.
- 2008 Arab Resource Organizing Committee-Nakba-60 Solidarity Art
Designed T-shirt for Arab Resource Organizing Committee for the first Palestinian Festival in the United States organized by Palestinians.
- 2008 Quinn Delaney/Akonadi Foundation Poster and Greeting Card Design
Produced commemorative design for the International Day for the Elimination of Racism.
- 2008 City of Richmond, Women’s Day Conference Design
Produced design for conference materials for “Women in Solidarity: Honoring self, honoring community.”
- 2008 Indigenous People’s Night of Resistance, University of California, Berkeley
Produced design in collaboration with Jesus Barraza for event materials.
- 2005 Youth Sounds
Produced four paintings for youth music production organization.

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- Benson Latin American Collection, University of Texas Libraries, Austin, TX

- Quinn Delaney and Wayne Jordan, Piedmont, CA
- Dr. Gilberto Cardenas, University of Notre Dame, IN
- Drs. Harriett & Ricardo Romo, University of Texas, San Antonio
- Hispanic Research Center, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- Latin American Collection of the Green Library, Stanford University, Stanford CA
- Center for the Study of Political Graphics, Los Angeles, CA
- Library of Congress, Washington, DC
- Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
- The Rupert Garcia and Sammy Madison Garcia Collection, Oakland, CA
- Women's Resource Center, San Francisco City College, San Francisco, CA
- Interference Archive, Brooklyn, NY
- Instituto de Arte Grafico Oaxaca, Oaxaca, MX
- The Palestine Poster Project Archives, Washington, DC

PUBLICATIONS /PRESS

Hablamos Juntos: Together We Speak, Santa Cruz Writes' Young Writers Program, 2016, Arts Council Santa Cruz County.

The Harvard Journal of Hispanic Policy, Volume 28, 2016, original color artwork on cover.

“Woman Crush(ing The Patriarchy) Wednesday: Melanie Cervantes, Latina Magazine, January 20, 2016.

Visions of Peace and Justice: Political Posters from the Archives of Inkworks Press, by Inkworks Press and Lincoln Cushing, Inkworks Press, 2016, reproduction of over 20 artworks.

When We Fight We Win: Twenty-First-Century Social Movements and the Activists That Are Transforming Our World, By Greg Jobin Leeds, The New Press, 2016, reproduction of original artwork.

“Revolution Part II: Still Reading by the Fire”, art 21 magazine, by Jayna Swartzman -Brosky November-December Issue, 2016.

“No Filter: Finding Chicana Empowerment, Community and Art on Instagram”, Bitch Media, November 10, 2015.

En Nuestra Imagen/In Our Image, Exhibit Art Catalogue, 2015, color reproductions of original artwork.

“8 Cards to Celebrate Mamas of All Shapes, Sizes and Colors”, Takepart, May 9, 2015.

“Design Activism: Own a Computer, Make A Difference” Skilled Up, February 23, 2015.

Research Justice: Methodologies for Social Change, Edited by Andrew J. Jolivet, Policy Press, 2015, original color artwork on cover.

In Our Power: U.S. Students Organize for Justice in Palestine, by Nora Barrows Friedman, Just World Books, 2015, original color artwork on cover.

“Poster for Gaza”, L’Humanité, Paris, France, Online, October 4, 2014.

“The Gaza War Through the Eyes of Palestinians and Supporters”, Print Magazine, Online, September 10, 2014.

Creating Aztlán: Chicano Art, Indigenous Sovereignty and Lowriding Across Turtle Island, by Dylan Miner, University of Minnesota Press, 2014, reproduction of original artwork and discussion.

“Celebrating a Partnership of Two West Coasts”, The New York Times, September 9, 2014.

“Hilando Fino desde el Feminismo Comunitario” by Julieta Paredes, El Rebozo Press, February , 2014.

“Hopeful. ‘Unapologetic’ Art Rebrands the Immigration Movement, ABC News Univision, March 1, 2013.

Undoing Border Imperialism, by Harsha Walia, AK Press, 2013, original color artwork on cover.

All of Us or None: Social Justice Posters of the San Francisco Bay Area, Heydey Press, 2013, color reproductions of original artwork.

The Hip-Hop Generation Fights Back: Youth, Activism and Post-Civil Rights Politics, by Andreeana Clay, New York University Press, 2012, original color artwork on cover.

The Political Works of Dignidad Rebelde, Juxtapoz Online, October 17, 2012.

Occupy Bay Area: SPARK, KQED Public Broadcasting Service, July 2012

Don’t Leave Your Friends Behind, by Victoria Law and China Martens, PM Press, 2012, color reproduction of original artwork on cover.

Briarpatch Magazine, Cover design, July/August 2012 edition.

Toma las Calles! Take It to the Streets! An interview with Melanie Cervantes of Dignidad Rebelde, by Adrienne Skye Roberts, April 26, 2012

4 Artists Who Are Reshaping America’s Immigration Debate, Colorlines, September 2011

Refuge: A Migratory and Momentary Guide to the City (Ljubljana, Slovenia: Likovne Besede, Ljubljana Personal series), 2011

Race and Occupy Wall Street-The Nation, October 29,2011 website Edmonton

Celebrate People's History!: The Poster Book of Resistance and Revolution, by Josh MacPhee (Editor), 2010, 256pgs.

"Bay Area activists and artists switch gears on Arizona protests" Oakland Tribute Cover, July 28, 2010

Rosa Luxemburg, by Paul Frolich , Haymarket Books, 2010, color reproduction of original artwork on cover.

Signal: 01: A Journal of International Political Graphics, #1, editors: Alec Dunn, Josh Macphee, PM Press, 2010, color reproduction of original artwork, Cover Design, 128pgs.

Firebrands: Portraits from the Americas, 2010, 192 pgs.

Los Viajes/The Journey by Poor Press, 2009

Hispanic Magazine, Features Art, July/August 2009

Paper Politics: Socially Engaged Printmaking Today by Josh MacPhee 2009, 144 pgs. Mujeres de

Maiz: Somos Medicina by Mujeres de Maiz, 2008, 20 pgs.

100 Families Oakland: Art and Social Change by Sonia BasSheva Manjon, 2005, 94 pgs.

of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

Book Covers

MELANIE CERVANTES

Melanie Cervantes is a Xicana activist-artist whose role is to translate the hopes and dreams of justice movements into images that agitate and inspire.

Melanie's work includes black and white illustrations, paintings, installations and paper stencils, but she is best known for her prolific production of political screen prints and posters. Employing vibrant colors and hand-drawn illustrations, her work moves those viewed as marginal to the center -- featuring powerful youth, elders, women, and queer and indigenous peoples.

Born in Southern California in Harbor City she moved to the Bay Area where she developed her art practice but her training as an artist began with her mother and father. She learned color theory while helping her mother select fabric for school clothes at Los Angeles swap meets; and she developed some of her technical skills by watching her dad repurpose neighborhood junk into her childhood treasures.

Melanie built on this knowledge by studying library books, designing and constructing her own clothes, and forging friendships with other creative people. At UC Berkeley she received formal training in Ethnic Studies, and in 2004 graduated with a Bachelors Degree. Melanie fuses what she learned from this interdisciplinary study of racialized peoples, her art skills and her strong decolonizing politics in order to become a powerhouse "artist of the people". Her most revered mentor is her partner and fellow printmaker Jesus Barraza, with whom she formed Dignidad Rebelde, a collaborative graphic art project that translates stories into images that can be put back into the hands of the communities who inspired them.

Melanie has exhibited at Galería de la Raza (San Francisco); Woman Made Gallery and National Museum of Mexican Art (Chicago); Mexic-Arte and Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center (Austin, TX); and Crewest (Los Angeles). Internationally her art has reached Mexico, Slovenia, Palestine, Venezuela, Switzerland and Guatemala. Her work is in public collections of the Center for the Study of Political Graphics, the Latin American Collection of the Green Library at Stanford, and the Hispanic Research Center at the Arizona State University as well as various private collections throughout the U.S.

STATEMENT

DIGNIDAD REBELDE JESUS BARRAZA & MELANIE CERVANTES

Dignidad Rebelde is graphic arts collaboration between Oakland-based activist artists Jesus Barraza and Melanie Cervantes. We believe that art can be an empowering reflection of community struggles, dreams and visions. Following principles of Xicanisma and Zapatismo, we create art that translates people's stories into imagery that can be put back into the hands of the communities who inspired it.

We recognize that the history of the majority of people worldwide is a history of colonialism, genocide, and exploitation. Our art is grounded in Third World and indigenous movements that build people's power to transform the conditions of fragmentation, displacement and loss of culture that result from this history. Visualizing these movements means connecting struggles through our artwork and seeking inspire solidarity among communities of struggle worldwide.

Dignidad Rebelde's graphic art is of the highest quality and versatility – our art is for museums, collectors' exhibitions, community and cultural centers, individual homes, political rallies and more. We are committed to advancing the acceptance of people's art as quality art, and to nurturing a model of art making grounded in collaboration with community organizations and other networks of artists.

In this spirit of collaboration among artists, we are also members of the Taller Tupac Amaru and Justseeds Artist Cooperative.