Each state of mind is irreducible: Spanish & Latin American Artists

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When focusing on artists of Spanish and Latin American heritage, it is not enough to use blanket terms like “Spanish,” Hispanic,” or “Latinx” to classify these artists and their work. With geographical and cultural breadth encompassed within what we call Spanish and Latin American “heritage,” it is nearly impossible, and quite irresponsible, to attempt to define all elements often identified with these cultures. However, it is important to understand and celebrate Spanish and Latin American heritage, and examine their roles within American culture.

Understanding and celebration often comes in the form of art, and, therefore, Each state of mind is irreducible: Spanish & Latin American Artists offers a lens into how artists living in the U.S. grapple with their roots. For the exhibition at Hudson County Community College, artists based at Mana Contemporary New Jersey and Chicago illuminate ways in which U.S.-based artists allude to their Spanish or Latin American heritage through individualized practice—through sculpture, textiles, painting, carpentry, among other mediums. Whether born abroad or in the U.S., the artists included in Each state of mind is irreducible: Spanish & Latin American Artists demonstrates ways in which artists often oscillate between cultures and form their own identities while doing so. When placed together, the individuality of each artist’s body of work, as it becomes evident when placed in the context of an exhibition, reveals cultural complexities that are often veiled by generalizations.

ARTISTS: Candida Alvarez, Daniel Bejar, Matías Cuevas, Maria de Los Angeles, Alejandro Dron, Luciana Lamothe, Rodrigo Lara Zendejas, Alberto Montaño Mason, Leonardo Ramos Moreno, Antonio Murado, G.T. Pellizzi, Javier Placido, Bruno Smith and Ray Smith