Home - So Different, So Appealing

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Electronic version

URL: <http://journals.openedition.org/critiquedart/29230>

DOI: 10.4000/critiquedart.29230

ISSN: 2265-9404

Publisher

Groupe d'intérêt scientifique (GIS) Archives de la critique d'art

Electronic reference

Rado Istok, « Home - So Different, So Appealing », *Critique d'art* [Online], All the reviews on line, Online since 25 May 2019, connection on 24 September 2020. URL : <http://journals.openedition.org/critiquedart/29230> ; DOI : <https://doi.org/10.4000/critiquedart.29230>

This text was automatically generated on 24 September 2020.

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- ¹ *Home - So Different, So Appealing* is the catalogue of the eponymous exhibition organised by the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; as a part of Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA, a programme focused on Latin American and Latino art in relation to Los Angeles. Prepared by curators of the three respective institutions, Chon A. Noriega, Mari Carmen Ramírez, and Pilar Tompkins Rivas, the exhibition and its accompanying catalogue provide a critical overview of the artistic production of forty-one Latin American and US Latino artists between years 1957 and 2017, scrutinised through the notion of home. Home is in the curators' view not solely a private refuge separated from the political reality of the world but on the contrary "a set of relationships across personal, socioeconomic, cultural, political, and transnational contexts since the late 1950s" (p. 15). Experiences of migration, displacement and homelessness, as well as racialised domestic labour, thus create an uncanny counterpart to the American dream of a suburban house as a glamorous site of the postwar consumerism of the white middle-class US citizens, both of which can be seen through the lenses of the US foreign and economic policies in relation to the Latin American countries and their diasporas within the USA. The catalogue consists of two parts where the first comprises three in-depth essays by each of the exhibition curators, and the second presents detailed images of works in the exhibition in eight thematic 'constellations' considered as dialogues across nationalities and generations ("Model Homes", "Archeology of Home", "Mapping Home", "Recycled Homes", "Home as Form", "Embodied Home", "Troubled Homeland", and "Going Home"). As a whole the catalogue provides the reader not only with a reconsideration of home as a place which is more relational than geographic but also an "alternative narrative of postwar art in the Americas" (p. 18).