



AMERICAN ARTIST BEATRICE GLOW EXHIBITS

# AROMÉRICA

— *parfumeur* —

**[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AUG 7, 2016, SANTIAGO DE CHILE]**

Situated within a commercial center, **Sala de Arte Mall Plaza Vespuccio del Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de Chile**, the exhibition ***Aromérica Parfumeur*** by American artist **Beatrice Glow** is on view from August 13<sup>th</sup> to September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 before traveling onwards to Concepción. This new work by Glow reveals how plants have shaped history during the bloody development of colonial commerce through an installation that appeals to the olfactory senses. The project underlines a parallel between how the imaginary, systemic violence and smell are invisible yet omnipresent.

The installation takes on the form of a perfumery, while connecting the historic imaginary of the formation of the Americas through the search for the spices of Asia. The conquistadores were not only behind El Dorado (The Golden) and the Fountain of Eternal Youth, but also El Picante (The Spice) and the País de la Canela (Country of Cinnamon). Botanical social history shares an intimate relationship with globalization: the circumnavigation of the world led by Ferdinand Magellan was financed by a handful of cloves while Christopher Columbus stumbled upon the Americas in search of spices. Then, it was Amerigo Vespucci who declared the “radical” idea that a New World was “discovered.”

Perhaps one could say that spices such as nutmeg, cloves, cinnamon and black pepper were the petroleum of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Globalization formalized when Asia, the Americas and Europe connected for the first time in 1565 through the Manila-Acapulco Galleon Trade, better known as “Nao de la China” or “Nao de Acapulco.” Through this commercial trade route between the Philippines, Mexico and Spain, Chinese luxury goods such as porcelain, silk and spices also began influencing the visual culture of the Americas. In reference to the development of globalization, the silk prints on view in the exhibition embed the social history of plants inside compositions inspired by the Manton de Manila.

Taking in the conscience of the land and standing in solidarity with indigenous cultures, the installation also features native Chilean plants, positioning us in the reality of our own territory, the place we live, inviting us to reestablish our ties to the ecosystem.

## **MUSEO SIN MUROS, MUSEO NACIONAL DE BELLAS ARTES**

The Museo sin Muros project is an initiative between the National Museum of Fine Arts and Mall Plaza’s chain of commercial centers that aims to extend the spaces of the National Museum to a larger and more diverse audience through temporary exhibitions of both patrimonial collections as well as representative artistic expressions of new trends.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

**Beatrice Glow** is an interdisciplinary artist whose work uncovers invisible, suppressed stories that lie in the geopolitical shadows of colonialism and migration. Her practice comprises of sculptural installations, trilingual publishing, participatory performances and lectures, and experiential technologies.

Glow is the recipient of the 2015 Van Lier Visual Art Fellowship at Wave Hill and was named a 2015 Joan Mitchell Foundation Emerging Artist Finalist. In 2014, she was awarded a Franklin Furnace Fund grant to create the Floating Library—a pop-up, mobile device-free public space aboard the historic Lilac Museum Steamship on the Hudson River. As a 2008-9 Fulbright Scholar, she traveled to Peru to pursue a research-creation project retracing “coolie” geographies.

Glow is a Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics' Council Member, and previously was Artist-in-Residence at the LES Studio Program at Artists Alliance Inc. Her most recent activities include *Aromérica Parfumeur*, a solo exhibition at the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de Chile (2016); *The Wayfinding Project* at the A/P/A Institute at NYU (2016); *Rhunhattan* at Wave Hill (2015); and a lecture performance as part of Asia Contemporary Art Week's *Field Meeting Take 2* at the Venice Biennale (2015). She holds a BFA in Studio Art from NYU.

## VENUE, HOURS AND CONTACT INFO

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Telephone: 22586 32 32 / mnbaplazavespucio@gmail.com  
Visting Hours: Monday through Sunday 10:30 am - 21:00 pm  
Free Admission

## SPONSORS



## SPECIAL THANKS

Ñuke Mapu; Ancestors; Andy and Anne Guo; The family of Senaquerib Astudillo and Gabriela Amigo; Alejandro Pino Trompetista, músico y productor musical del Colectivo Mapocho; Alexandre Girardeau of HIGHWAY101, ETC ; Alexandra Chang, Curator of Special Projects and Director of Global Arts Exchange at the Asian/Pacific/American Institute at New York University; Joan Mitchell Foundation; Cristián García; Alex Bahamondes; Jodi Wayneberg and Alessandro Facente at the LES Studio Program of Artists Alliance Inc; Delfina Curihuinca Huenchún y familia; David Akivi y Hiengel Muñoz; Luis Neira; Wave Hill Public Garden and Cultural Center