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The Inaugural Faena Festival

Faena Art presents Faena Festival: This Is Not America.

A New Annual Multidisciplinary Festival during Miami Art Week, from December 3-9, 2018.

The First Faena Festival explores the mythologies and narratives of 'America' and commissions new installations and performances that reflect the multiplicity of cultures, voices, and people across its physical, conceptual, and political borders.

Faena Festival: This Is Not America features commissions, installations, and performances by Derrick Adams, Cecilia Bengolea, Alfredo Jaar, Isabel Lewis, Luna Paiva, Tavares Strachan, and Wu Tsang and boychild, among others.



Faena Festival, This Is Not America, is keyed to Miami's enduring role as a port that welcomes migrants, refugees, and tourists from across the US and the Americas, and from countries throughout the world. The festival engages with the multiplicity of communities and cultures and the palimpsest of histories that have created the Americas while responding specifically to Miami as its hemispheric hub. All programming is free and open to the public.

This Is Not America is anchored by Alfredo Jaar's groundbreaking work, A Logo for America, and proposes a new curatorial format for presentation that occupies and engages the entire Faena District and extends beyond into public spaces of the city of Miami Beach as an experiential platform. The diverse venues of the Faena District Miami Beach will be activated, including the public areas of the street, sidewalk, and beach; the Faena Hotel, including its theater and screening room; and Faena Forum – the OMA-designed cultural centerpiece of Faena District Miami Beach.

“From the beginning my vision for Faena has been to create a cultural epicenter that draws artists and audiences from throughout the Americas and around the world,” stated Alan Faena, Founder and President of the Faena Group. “The annual Faena Festival will provide a new platform to explore ideas in contemporary culture that fosters engagement with the issues that define us individually and

collectively. We are interested in site-specificity and universal impact – in creating a cultural movement without borders, we want to speak to the world. Artists are not limited by geopolitical divides, and ultimately, by celebrating these diverse artists and visions we find ways in which we are all connected.”

“This Is Not America addresses America as concept more than a piece, a contested and powerful idea that is greater than the waters and borders that frame it,” noted Zoe Lukov, curator of Faena Art. “Artists in the Festival have been invited to explore the concept of America as a myth and a narrative that has at times bound and divided us but ultimately has the power to unify. By occupying the interstitial zone between land and sea many of these site-specific installations seek to reimagine porous and transitional spaces as places of refuge and safe harbor that are representative of what our ‘America’ is and can become.”