

Rafael Lozano-Hemmer: Common Measures

September 9 – October 22, 2022 510 West 25th Street New York



Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, Pulse Topology, 2021 @Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, courtesy Pace Gallery

New York – Pace is pleased to present an exhibition of three major installations by Rafael Lozano-Hemmer at its 510 West 25th Street gallery in New York. On view from September 9 to October 22, the show, titled *Rafael Lozano-Hemmer: Common Measures*, marks Lozano-Hemmer's first solo exhibition with Pace since he joined the gallery.

Known for his critical and poetic digital artworks, Lozano-Hemmer incorporates a wide range of technologies in his practice, including artificial intelligence, robotics, interactive fountains, computerized surveillance, and mapped projections. Situated at the intersection of architecture and performance, his often participatory, public-facing works have been inspired by phantasmagoria and animatronic traditions. Through his installations, Lozano-Hemmer has examined social and political issues; literary histories; and natural, scientific, and physiological phenomena.

Lozano-Hemmer became the first artist to officially represent Mexico at the Venice Biennale in 2007. His work can be found in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Musée des Beaux Arts de Montréal; Fundación Jumex Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City; Amore Pacific Museum of Art, Seoul; Tate, London; and many other international institutions.

In 2021, Lozano-Hemmer was the subject of numerous solo exhibitions at museums across the US, including the Brooklyn Museum in New York; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City. Among his recent public projects are *Border Tuner* (2019), a large-scale, participatory installation connecting the cities of El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua through bridges of light and sound, and *Speaking Willow* (2020), a sound sculpture in the shape of a weeping willow tree installed at the entrance of the Planet Word Museum in Washington, D.C.

In his forthcoming exhibition with Pace in New York, the artist will showcase three new installations that honor ephemerality as a salient aspect of the human condition: *Pulse Topology* (2021), *Call on Water* (2016), and *Hormonium* (2022).



Pulse Topology, which was presented at Art Basel 2022, is an immersive biometric artwork consisting of 3,000 suspended lightbulbs, each of which glimmers to the heartbeat of a different participant from the past. Pulse sensors detect and record new heartbeats, which replace the oldest ones, creating a memento mori. The piece was inspired by the Mexican classic movie Macario, in which the protagonist has a hunger-induced hallucination that shows each person on the planet represented by a frail, flickering candle.

A fountain work titled *Call on Water* features words from poems by Mexican writer Octavio Paz, rendered in water vapor in mid-air. Disappearing a few moments after they are composed, the airborne verses explore the lyrical and tangible qualities of the atmosphere. *Call on Water* utilizes hundreds of computer-controlled ultrasonic atomizers to produce legible wisps of pure, cold water vapor that answer Paz's calls for "a fountain to read" and "breathable poetry."

Hormonium, a screen-based, generative artwork, will make its North American debut in this exhibition. The work depicts crashing ocean waves releasing airborne particles of text, which serve as acronyms for human hormones. Hormonium runs on circadian, ultradian, and infradian rhythms, all of which impact the levels of different hormones in the human body. For example, the work shows more adrenalin during the day and more melatonin at night, as well as insulin spikes three times a day during meals. The work also ages over the course of a 90-year cycle, reflecting decreases in levels of aldosterone, calcitonin, GH, and renin, and a rise in cortisol. In this way, Hormonium attempts to visualize the cyclical and complex nature of chronobiology.

In advance of his exhibition at Pace, Lozano-Hemmer will open *Listening Forest*, a mid-career retrospective of his larger outdoor works, on the grounds of the North Forest at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas, on view from August 31, 2022 to January 1, 2023.

Rafael Lozano-Hemmer (b. 1967, Mexico City) is a media artist with a degree in Physical Chemistry and a long-standing career of collaboration with artists, philosophers, activists, and scientists. Antimodular Research, his Montreal-based studio established in 2003, comprises a diverse staff of 24 full-time developers from seven countries, including architects, programmers, artists, scientists, historians, and musicians.

Public artworks by Lozano-Hemmer have been commissioned for the Millennium Celebrations in Mexico City (1999), the Expansion of the European Union in Dublin (2004), the Student Massacre Memorial in Tlatelolco (2008), the Vancouver Olympics (2010), the pre-opening exhibition of the Guggenheim in Abu Dhabi (2015), the activation of the Raurica Roman Theatre in Basel (2018), and the Planet Word Museum of Language in Washington D.C. (2020).

In 2019, his immersive performance *Atmospheric Memory* premiered at the Manchester International Festival and his interactive installation *Border Tuner* connected people across the US-Mexico border using bridges of light controlled by the voices of participants in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua and El Paso, Texas. In 2022, the Crystal Bridges Museum of Art is staging a solo show of Lozano-Hemmer's large outdoor works in its North Forest.

His work can be found in the Daros Collection, Zurich; Fundación Jumex, Mexico City; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; ZKM Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe, Germany; MUAC, Mexico City; MONA, Hobart, Tasmania; Museo del Barrio, New York; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; Science Museum, London; Singapore Art Museum; and Tate, London, among many other collections around the world. In the last few years, Lozano-Hemmer has been the subject of solo exhibitions at various international institutions, including the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C. and the Amorepacific Museum of Art, Seoul. The artist's recent mid-career retrospective was co-produced by the Musée d'art Contemporain de Montréal and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

Pace is a leading international art gallery representing some of the most influential contemporary artists and estates from the past century, holding decades-long relationships with Alexander Calder, Jean Dubuffet, Barbara Hepworth, Agnes Martin, Louise Nevelson, and Mark Rothko. Pace enjoys a unique U.S. heritage spanning East and West coasts through its early support of artists central to the Abstract Expressionist and Light and Space movements.

Since its founding by Arne Glimcher in 1960, Pace has developed a distinguished legacy as an artist-first gallery that mounts seminal historical and contemporary exhibitions. Under the current leadership of President and CEO Marc



Glimcher, Pace continues to support its artists and share their visionary work with audiences worldwide by remaining at the forefront of innovation. Now in its seventh decade, the gallery advances its mission through a robust global program—comprising exhibitions, artist projects, public installations, institutional collaborations, performances, and interdisciplinary projects. Pace has a legacy in art bookmaking and has published over five hundred titles in close collaboration with artists, with a focus on original scholarship and on introducing new voices to the art historical canon.

The gallery has also spearheaded explorations into the intersection of art and technology through its new business models, exhibition interpretation tools, and representation of artists cultivating advanced studio practices. As part of its commitment to technologically engaged artists within and beyond its program, Pace launched a hub for its web3 activity, Pace Verso, in November 2021.

Today, Pace has nine locations worldwide, including a European foothold in London and Geneva, and two galleries in New York—its headquarters at 540 West 25th Street, which welcomed almost 120,000 visitors and programmed 20 shows in its first six months, and an adjacent 8,000 sq. ft. exhibition space at 510 West 25th Street. Pace's long and pioneering history in California includes a gallery in Palo Alto, which operated from 2016 to 2022. Pace's engagement with Silicon Valley's technology industry has had a lasting impact on the gallery at a global level, accelerating its initiatives connecting art and technology as well as its work with experiential artists. Pace consolidated its West Coast activity through its flagship in Los Angeles, which opened in 2022. Pace was one of the first international galleries to establish outposts in Asia, where it operates permanent gallery spaces in Hong Kong and Seoul, as well as an office and viewing room in Beijing. Pace's satellite exhibition spaces in East Hampton and Palm Beach present continued programming on a seasonal basis.

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