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FAU Presents ‘Black Mirror And Other Third World Reflections: Selections from the Mario Cader-Frech Collection’

BOCA RATON, Fla. (August 17, 2018) – The University Galleries at Florida Atlantic University’s Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters will present “Black Mirror, and other Third World reflections—selections from the Mario Cader-Frech Collection.” The exhibition will be on view from Friday, Feb. 1, through Saturday, Mar. 16, 2019 in the Ritter Art Gallery, and Friday Feb. 15, 2019 through Saturday Apr. 6, 2019, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus. There will be an opening reception on Thursday, Feb. 14 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Schmidt Center Gallery. The exhibition and opening are free and open to the public.

Curated by Claire Breukel of YES Contemporary, *Black Mirror* features multimedia work by contemporary artists impacted by the Salvadoran Civil War (1979-1991), immigration, and social and political disparity, yet which offers much-needed alternative readings to the status quo, commenting on Pop culture, architecture, and the ways in which people, and the human body, is and can be activated.

Adopting the title of a work by Beatriz Cortez, *Black Mirror*, much like the TV series, offers insight into another world—a “Third World”. This “Third World”, typecast by economic disparity, has the ability to simultaneously absorb and deflect “First World” ideologies, offering a different, arguably unique, yet less publicized way of seeing, much like the reflective surface and unknown depth of a blackened mirror. Although considered derogatory, the term “Third World” is re-appropriated in order to acknowledge the pervasive labor, trade, and educational disparities that impact the “global south.”

Centered around two themes *'Third World' City: identifying difference* and *Action Reaction: outside is inside and other performances*, *Black Mirror* casts an eye on the experimental and exploratory visual, performance and filmic language of contemporary artists from El Salvador and its diaspora. These artists include Abigail Reyes, Albertine Stahl, Beatriz Cortez, Crack Rodriguez, Ernesto Bautista, Fredy Solano (Póker), Guadalupe Maravilla (formerly Irvin Morazan), Karlos Carcamo, Mayra Barraza, Melissa Guevara, Ronald Moran, Simón Vega, The Fire Theory, Veronica Vides and Walterio Iraheta.

Mario Cader-Frech shares:

I started a collection of work by the most outstanding artists from El Salvador and its diaspora in order to collate a cohesive body of contemporary work, with the idea of making this work accessible to museums and art spaces interested in art from the region. We are thrilled to be working with FAU, and to share this work with their students and the public.

All exhibitions in FAU's galleries are free and open to the public, Tuesdays through Fridays from 1 to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m. School and group tours can be arranged via appointment during public hours or alternative times by e-mailing (knuruddin@fau.edu) or calling the University Galleries at 561-297-2661; or visiting www.fau.edu/galleries. The Schmidt Gallery is in FAU's Performing Arts Building, while the Ritter Art Gallery is adjacent to FAU's Wimberly Library on the second floor of the University Breezeway.

The "Black Mirror and Other Third World Reflections" exhibition and programs have been made possible in part by the State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and Council on the Arts; Cultural Council of Palm Beach County; R.A. Ritter Foundation; and Isadore and Kelly Friedman University Galleries Fund. Museum Education Programs are made possible by Kaye Arts Integration Endowment and Community Foundation of Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

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About Florida Atlantic University:

Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of \$6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU's world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of three signature themes – marine and coastal issues, biotechnology and contemporary societal challenges – which provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU's existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.