

# MSU BROAD

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April 30, 2019



## **MSU Broad Spotlights Conceptualism in Latin America with New Exhibition, *The Edge of Things: Dissident Art Under Repressive Regimes***

**East Lansing, MI** – The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad) is proud to present *The Edge of Things: Dissident Art Under Repressive Regimes*, on view from June 1, 2019–January 5, 2020. This exhibition gathers experimental artworks from the 1960s through the late 1980s made under military dictatorships in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile, and features sixteen artists and two artist collectives who used art-making as an exercise in freedom and dissent. The exhibition opens to the public on May 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-8pm.

Facing the persecution, torture, “disappearance,” and murder of dissident citizens, artists approached the body, as well as the street, as political spaces to express resistance to oppressive social, political, and cultural conditions. Their diverse visual strategies and actions that bordered on activism were a way to communicate, interrogate, and make visible what was being pushed to the edges of official state narratives.

Describing the cultural production at the time, curator Carla Acevedo-Yates explains that “artists were questioning their role in society and felt a need to create art that had a social and political impact. This exhibition evidences the power of art to mobilize and engage citizens in times of political uncertainty.”

*The Edge of Things: Dissident Art Under Repressive Regimes* showcases video and photographic documentation of performances and public actions, art created from found objects, Mail Art, and other works that challenge the institution of art.

The exhibition will also feature artworks that have never been shown in the United States by Dalila Puzzovio (Argentina), Edgardo Antonio Vigo (Argentina), Martha Araújo (Brazil), Victor Gerhard (Brazil), Regina Vater (Brazil), Carlos Leppe (Chile), and Las Yeguas del Apocalipsis (Chile).

Notably, the opening night of the exhibition will feature the United States premiere of Margarita Paksa's *Comunicaciones* (Communications), first performed in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1968.

Additional programming through the run of the exhibition will further explore how art can become a call to action, an act of resistance, and a reclamation of individual and collective freedom.

*The Edge of Things: Dissident Art under Repressive Regimes* is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University and curated by Carla Acevedo-Yates, Associate Curator, with support from Georgia Erger, Curatorial Assistant, Thaís Wenstrom, Curatorial Intern, and Patrick O'Grady, Graduate Fellow in History. Support for this exhibition is provided by the Eli and Edythe Broad endowed exhibitions fund and the Center for Studies on Latin American Art (CLACS).

**The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad)** is a dynamic contemporary art museum that serves as both a teaching institution and a cultural hub for East Lansing and the region. Opened on November 10, 2012, the museum was designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Zaha Hadid and named in honor of Eli and Edythe Broad, longtime supporters of the university who provided the lead gift of \$28 million. In 2017, the MSU Broad was awarded \$1 million from MSU Federal Credit Union in support of the Art Lab, an expansion across Grand River Avenue that provides increased access to and research of the permanent collection.

**Michigan State University** has been working to advance the common good in uncommon ways for more than 150 years. One of the top research universities in the world, MSU focuses its vast resources on creating solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges, while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 200 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.

**Image:** Regina Vater, *Para um tempo de guerra (For a time of war)*, 1987. Courtesy Galeria Jaqueline Martins.

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