

INTERNATIONAL

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Twenty-One Silent Stages: A Ballad Angel Nevarez and Valerie Tevere

Spring 2021 International Artists-in-Residence

In residence January 25–March 27, 2021

Exhibitions on view March 25, 2021–May 16, 2021

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Angel Nevarez and Valerie Tevere have exhibited and screened their work at the Museum of Modern Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Creative Time, New Museum, and Paul Kasmin Gallery in New York; Manifesta 8/Spain; Museo de arte Raúl Anguiano, Guadalajara, Mexico; Casino Luxembourg; Henie Onstad Art Center, Høvikodden, Norway; Taxispalais Kunsthalle Tirol, Innsbruck, Austria; and elsewhere. The first U.S. survey of their work was exhibited at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, in 2016.

They have received fellowships and awards from the Guggenheim Foundation, Creative Capital, Harpo Foundation, Art Matters, National Endowment for the Arts, and Franklin Furnace. Both Nevarez and Tevere were Studio Fellows in the Whitney Museum of American Art's Independent Study Program, as well as artists-in-residence at the International Artists Studio Program in Stockholm, Sweden (IASPIS); Pioneer Works, Brooklyn, NY;

and Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana, CA. Upcoming residencies and projects include Marble House Project in Dorset, VT, and Antenna in New Orleans, LA.

Angel Nevarez (b. Mexico City, Mexico) is a musician and teaches at Parsons School of Design, New York. Valerie Tevere (b. Chicago, IL) received an MFA in photography from California Institute of the Arts and is Professor of Media Culture at the College of Staten Island, City University of New York (CUNY).

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

The multifold practice of Brooklyn-based interdisciplinary artists Angel Nevarez and Valerie Tevere spans two decades of projects that actuate music and sound, radio, dissent, and the cultural complexities of the public sphere. The artists have produced works in video installation, lyric writing, performance, and photography. Their research interests lie in the intersections of music, civic action, and historical moments that resonate through distinct musical instrumentation, sonorous traditions, and social forms.

The duo's Artpace project, entitled *Twenty-One Silent Stages: A Ballad*, responds to the life-changing events brought about by this generation's pandemic in ways that envision silence, emptiness, and voids in cultural and social spaces. The artists' work has often involved collaborations with musicians, radio practitioners, and city agencies. Yet, due to the pandemic, Nevarez and Tevere have contemplated a restructuring of their practice and have spent time in San Antonio reflecting on such transitions and new possibilities.

On view in the gallery are a series of photographs and a prominently placed stage. The artists photographed the empty and silent stages of 20 San Antonio music venues, performance spaces, and theaters that went dark during 2020 and 2021. The venues include The Bang Bang Bar, Carver Community Cultural Center, Cowboys Dancehall, Esperanza Center for Peace and Justice, The Lonesome Rose, Mission Marquee Plaza, and Paper Tiger, among other local favorites, some of which may close permanently as a result of substantial financial losses.

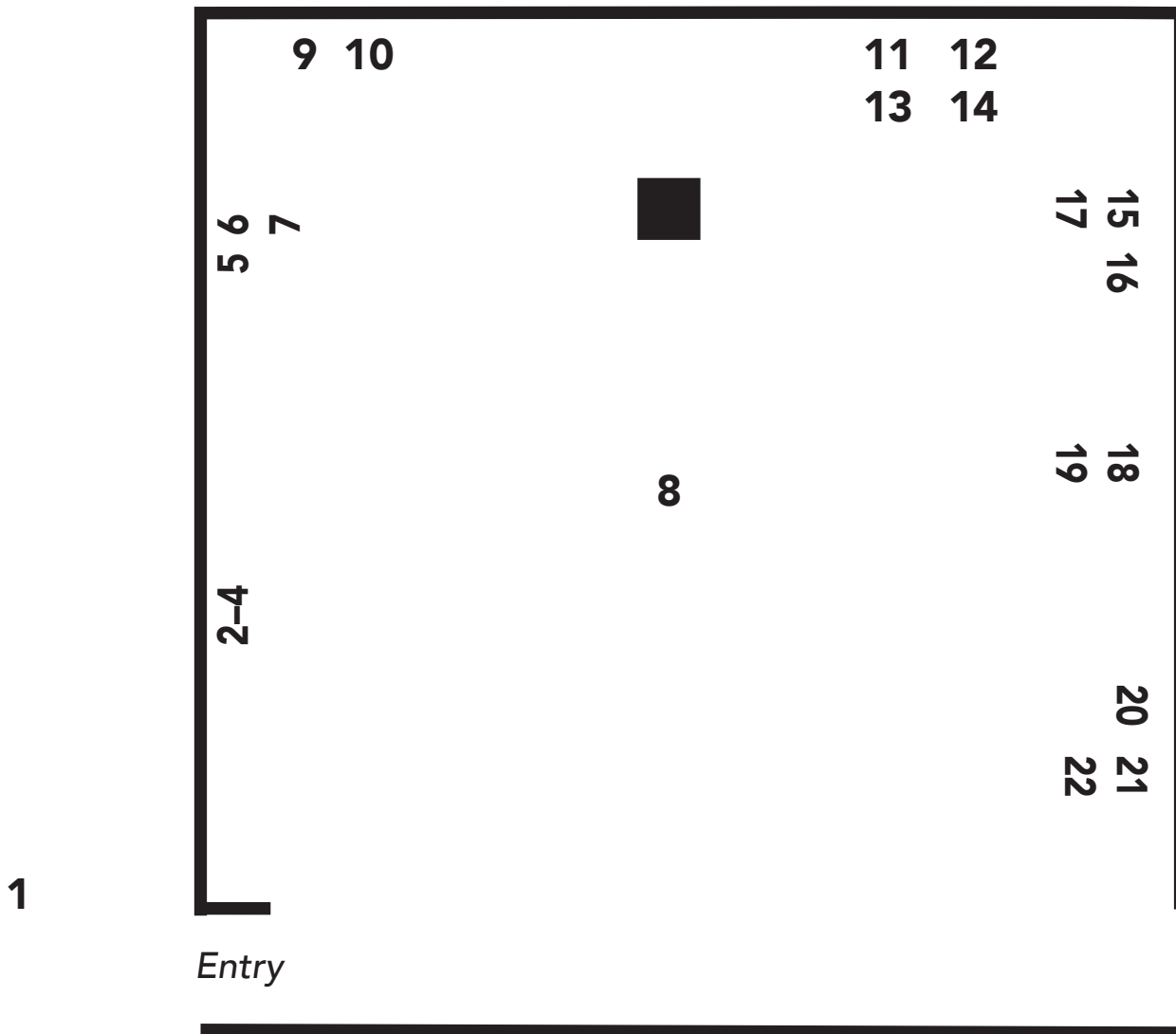
The circular stage constructed in the center of the gallery is much like the venues captured in the duo's photographs—it is empty and silent. The stage-as-structure suggests the activation of bodies, voices, instruments, and props that once signified communal social experiences. The empty stages portrayed in the photo series do not merely query the effects of the pandemic on performance venues but also the entirety of their related institutions: the musicians, performers, stagehands, audio engineers, and office staff whose creative and financial livelihoods depend upon the activities and opportunities of performance.

For Artpace's lobby, Nevarez and Tevere created and installed *Side Effects*, a neon sign with green, blue, and red alternating text reading "postponed," "rescheduled," and "canceled"—words that many artists were intimately familiar with in 2020 and continuing well beyond. While

“rescheduled” and “canceled” illuminate and then disappear, the word “postponed,” lit up in green, is legible whether illuminated or not, underscoring the residual effects of such postponements on the past, present, and future.

Twenty-One Silent Stages: A Ballad and Side Effects simultaneously mark the social, cultural, and economic impact of COVID-19 on both macro levels (cities) and micro levels (the artists’ practice). Viewers are invited to the gallery to encounter the reverberating silence and consider the very potential of empty stages, postponements, and cancelations, and what could be possible when people gather and performers take the stage once again.

GALLERY MAP & WORKS LIST



1 *Side Effects*
neon tubing, painted aluminum structure,
transformers and electronic sequencer

Located in the Artpace lobby

2 *Tucker's Kozy Korner*
February, 2021

3 *Paper Tiger*
February, 2021

4 *Merkaba*
February, 2021

5 *Majestic Theatre*
February, 2021

6 *Cowboys Dancehall*
February, 2021

7 *The Bang Bang Bar*
March, 2021

8 *Stage*
Plywood, paint, hardware

9 *Charline McCombs Empire Theatre*
February, 2021

10 *Faust Tavern*
February, 2021

11 *The Mix*
February, 2021

12 *Howl at the Moon*
February, 2021

13 *The Lonesome Rose*
February, 2021

14 *Carmens de la Calle*
February, 2021

15 *Mission Marquee Plaza*
March, 2021

16 *Arneson River Theater*
March, 2021

17 *Rosedale Park*
March, 2021

18 *Alameda Theater*
March, 2021

19 *Tuesday Musical Club*
February, 2021

20 *Esperanza Center for Peace and Justice*
March, 2021

21 *Carver Community Cultural Center*
February, 2021

22 *The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center*
February, 2021

All photographs are Archival Pigment
Prints on Hahnemühle Photo Rag Baryta

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Since 1995, Artpace has welcomed more than 251 artists through its renowned International Artist-in-Residence program. Annually, Artpace hosts three residencies, which each feature one Texas-based artist, one national artist, and one international artist, who are selected by a notable guest curator. Each eight-week residency culminates in a two-month exhibition on site. The mission of this program is to provide artists with unparalleled resources that allow them to experiment with new ideas and take provocative risks.

ABOUT ARTPACE

Artpace San Antonio is a nonprofit residency program which supports regional, national, and international artists in the creation of new art.

As a catalyst for artistic expression, we engage local communities with global art practices and experiences.

@artpace
#MakeArtHappen



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The artists would like to thank Gary Nichols of Hare and Hound Press, Ray Lynch of Affordable Neon, and the Artpace team for their work which made this exhibition possible.

Support for the International Artist-in-Residence Program comes from Artpace members & donors and:

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John L. Santikos Charitable Foundation



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