



Palo Gallery at ZSONAMACO Arte Contemporáneo 2026

Featuring: Raul De Lara and Manoela Medeiros

Sur Sector: ZMS8

Centro Banamex, Avenida Del Conscripto 311, Lomas De Conscripto, 11200

Miguel Hidalgo, CDMX

4 February - 8 February 2026



Raul De Lara, *Torito*, 2021. Courtesy of the Artist.

Palo Gallery (New York) is delighted to announce its participation in **ZSONAMACO Arte Contemporáneo 2026** with a duo presentation in their curated **Sur** sector featuring sculptures by **Raul De Lara** and **Manoela Medeiros**. Working in contrasting materials and coming from distinct cultural contexts, the artists are brought together by shared interests in storytelling, the relationship between space and time, and the belief that materials can hold memory.

De Lara's meticulously carved wood sculptures carry narratives, shaped not only by their imagery but by histories of labor, movement, and displacement. Recurring motifs of tools, cacti, and masks offer windows into De Lara's identity and cultural legacy. De Lara melds traditional wood working practices of Mexico and the US to produce sculptures that dance between humour, surreality and the uncanny. A well used shovel's handle is carved in such a way that it looks exhausted and unusable while a wall mounted round cactus serves as a self portrait of the artist. Each sculpture perplexes both in its exceptional technical execution and its tapestry of complex references and narratives.



Manoela Medeiros, *Still Life*, 2022. Courtesy of the Artist and Nara Roesler.

Manoela Medeiros works across painting, sculpture, and installation, often treating architecture as both subject and material. In her sculptural practice Medeiros is inspired by the architectural history of Modernism, Brazilian architecture and cross cultural influences. In her original sculpture show Medeiros responded to the architecture of Le Corbuiser's Unitè, whereas the works in this presentation are responses to the histories of Brazilian Modernist architecture. Each sculpture is a deconstruction of architectural elements some found and others cast and produced in the artist's studio. These sculptures, like vignettes, become portraits of a particular society and how they live. Moreover the pieces hold an incredible energetic charge; both perfectly balanced and stable but appear as if they could collapse at any moment.

Together, De Lara and Medeiros approach their practices as vessels of collective and personal memories. Medeiros reveals these memories and histories, through a removal of materials, whereas De Lara builds forms that accumulate history and meaning. Both artists walk the line between solely additive and subtractive practices.

Presented within the context of ZS@ONAMACO, their work emphasizes that space is never neutral and speaks to the urgency of remembering; vital during this time marked by heightened border tensions and continued marginalization of migrant communities.

About the Artists

Raul De Lara (b. 1991, Culiacán, Sinaloa, Mexico) is a sculptor based in New York City. His work explores the emotive and storytelling potential of materials such as wood, stone, sand, steel, and leather. Fond of humor, magical realism, and the uncanny, his sculptures draw from the visual languages found in flora, furniture design, and cultural artifacts. De Lara immigrated



to the U.S. at age 12 and has been a recipient of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) since 2012. His work reflects on themes of nationality, queer identity, and the immigrant experience. Alongside his artistic practice, De Lara engages in research that preserves, honors, and evolves traditional uses of wood in Mexican and American cultures, while combining them with new developments from the global woodworking industry. De Lara received his MFA in Sculpture + Extended Media from Virginia Commonwealth University and a BFA in Studio Art from the University of Texas at Austin.

Manoela Medeiros (b. 1991, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) articulates an approach to painting that transcends the specificities of the medium, making use of sculpture, performance, and installation work. Pursuing a hybrid framework for the pictorial, Medeiros questions artistic media by going beyond their conventional formats, producing paintings and in situ installations that explore the relationships between space, time, and the corporeality of art and of the viewer. The artist frequently performs direct interventions into exhibition spaces, creating works that emerge from the singularities of the space around her, attributing a sense of organicity to space and turning architecture into its own body. Through a seemingly archeological process, Medeiros engages with the notion of ruins as a spatial indication for passing time, scraping surfaces to unveil layers of colors and materials covered and forgotten over time, allowing them to coexist and intertwine within a liminal space between construction and destruction.

About Palo Gallery

Palo Gallery was established in 2018 in New York City by third-generation art collector Paul Henkel with a focus on academic and historically contextualized contemporary art. Scholarship and historical canon are at the forefront in the consideration of each group, solo or duo exhibition. The gallery program's curatorial focus aims to frame contemporary art within the context of art and social history, and are committed to offering artists unique opportunities to elaborate on these concerns.

Originating as a pop-up, the gallery opened its flagship location, designed by Selldorf Architects, on Bond Street in NoHo in September 2022, offering 3,400 square feet of exhibition space, giving artists the opportunity to work on a large scale. In June 2024, Palo's second location in New York City opened in the East Village, serving as a more intimate space for emerging artists and experimental exhibitions to have their own spotlight. Today, the gallery continues to showcase thematic presentations, offering artists a unique opportunity to explore pivotal, intersecting cultural and historical topics.

After participating in ZsONAMACO 2025, Aspen Art Fair 2025, Art Cologne 2025, and Untitled Art Miami 2025, Palo Gallery is excited to begin the new year with their participation in ZsONAMACO 2026 ahead of their debut at the first edition of Art Cologne Palma de Mallorca 2026.



Locations

Palo Gallery
30 Bond Street
New York, NY 10012
By Appointment Only

Palo Gallery
21 East 3rd Street
New York, NY 10003
Tuesday – Saturday | 11 AM to 6 PM

Current & Upcoming Exhibitions

Jane Hilton: Lightfall
21 East 3rd Street
10 January to 14 February 2025

Subject Object
21 East 3rd Street
15 November to 20 December 2025

Media Contacts

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