

**Anderson Ranch Arts Center presents
The Artist: Conscience in the age of Cynicism
A Critical Dialogue program with artist Enrique Martínez Celaya**

July 5, 2017 at 12:30pm



Photo courtesy of Enrique Martínez Celaya

Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado (June 27, 2017)—Anderson Ranch Arts Center presents *The Artist: Conscience in the age of Cynicism*, a Critical Dialogue program led by LA-based artist Enrique Martínez Celaya on July 5, 2017 at 12:30pm. Anderson Ranch's Critical Dialogue programs aim to engage participants in lively dialogue about contemporary art and art making – a cornerstone of Anderson Ranch's mission to encourage artistic discovery, community and dialogue.

In this dynamic offering—the Chairman's Choice Presentation for 2017—Celaya considers possible ways of being in the world as artists that resist and ultimately overcome the disenchantment of our age.

The presentation continues Celaya's longstanding relationship with Anderson Ranch. The recipient of Anderson Ranch's National Artist Award in 2007, Celaya has participated in

Anderson Ranch's Summer Series as a Featured Artist and served as an instructor in the Ranch's painting department. This year, Celaya will lead the final installation of a three-year Advanced Mentored Workshop in painting and drawing, a program that offers advanced students rigorous inquiry and steady direction for their individual practice. In addition to being a painter and sculptor, Celaya is also an acclaimed poet, author and inventor. One of his latest published works includes a book centered on his experience at the Ranch, entitled *On Art and Mindfulness, Notes from the Anderson Ranch* (2015).

The Artist: Conscience in the age of Cynicism is the second in a series of Critical Dialogue events at Anderson Ranch this summer, which began with *Ritual, Making and Spirituality in Art* with **Tom Sachs** and **Tom Healy** (June 22). Upcoming events include *Black Mountain College: then & now*, a Critical Dialogue Seminar with Chief Curator of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, **Helen Molesworth**, and painter and director of graduate studies in painting and printmaking at Yale University School of Art, **Anoka Faruqee** (July 10 – 11) and *The Artist, the Censor and the Nude*, a panel discussion with artist **Pamela Joseph**, authors **Glenn Harcourt** and **Eleanor Heartney**, and scholar and curator **Francis M. Naumann** (August 10). The program runs parallel to Anderson Ranch's acclaimed Summer Series of artist talks and conversations.

About Enrique Martínez Celaya

Enrique Martínez Celaya is an artist and author who during the early part of his career worked also as a scientist. His work has been exhibited and collected by major institutions around the world and he is the author of books and papers in art, poetry, philosophy, and physics. He is the Roth Family Distinguished Visiting Scholar at Dartmouth College and has been named the Provost Professor of Humanities and Arts at the University of Southern California.

Having developed a practice influenced by and in dialog with literature and philosophy, Martínez Celaya has created projects and exhibitions for the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, The Phillips Collection, Washington, Museum der bildenden Künste Leipzig, and the Pérez Art Museum Miami, among others, as well as for institutions outside of the art world, including the Berliner Philharmonie in Berlin, Germany, and the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine in New York. His work is included in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in Los Angeles, the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Moderna Museet in Stockholm, and the Phillips Collection in Washington D.C., among others. His work has been the subject of several monographic publications including *Enrique Martínez Celaya, 1992-2000* published by Wienand Verlag (Köln), *Enrique Martínez Celaya: Working Methods* published by

Ediciones Polígrafa (Barcelona), and most recently *Martínez Celaya, Work and Documents 1990-2015* published by Radius Books (Santa Fe).

Before his current academic positions at Dartmouth College and the University of Southern California, Martínez Celaya was appointed as the second Presidential Professor in the history of the University of Nebraska in 2007, and from 1994 to 2003 he taught as a tenured professor in the faculty of Pomona College and Claremont Graduate University. Martínez Celaya was a Montgomery Fellow at Dartmouth College and has received the Knight Foundation Grant, the National Artist Award from the Anderson Ranch Arts Center, the California Community Foundation Fellowship, J. Paul Getty Trust Fund for the Visual Arts, the Cecil and Ida Green Honors Chair at Texas Christian University, the Young Talent Award from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and he was a Regents Fellow of the University of California at both Berkeley and Santa Barbara. He is the founder of Whale & Star Press and the author of books in philosophy, poetry and art, including *On Art and Mindfulness: Notes from the Anderson Ranch*, published by Whale & Star Press (Los Angeles) in collaboration with the Anderson Ranch Arts Center; *Collected Writings and Interviews 1990-2010* and *The Nebraska Lectures*, both published by the University of Nebraska Press (Lincoln); *October*, published by Cinubia (Amsterdam); as well as the artist book *Guide*, which was later serialized by the magazine *Works & Conversations* (2002). As a physicist, Martínez Celaya published scientific papers on superconductivity and lasers, and is the inventor of several patented laser devices. He has worked in collaboration with scientists, entrepreneurs, writers, musicians, and architects, including the Canadian rock-band, Cowboy Junkies, the poet and Nobel-Prize-winning chemist, Roald Hoffmann, and the novelist Mary Rakow. He has offered lectures at venues around the world including the American Academy in Berlin and the Aspen Institute. In 1998, as an extension of his commitment to the education and formation of artists, Martínez Celaya founded Whale & Star Press, an imprint that publishes books on art, poetry, art practice, and critical theory. In addition, he has sponsored programs for children, provided scholarships for artists, and assisted schools in curricular development.

Martínez Celaya was born in Cuba in 1964 and raised in Spain and Puerto Rico. He initiated his formal training as an apprentice to a painter at the age of 12. In 1986 he received a BS in Applied Physics and a minor in Electrical Engineering from Cornell University and in 1988 he received an MS with a specialization in Quantum Electronics from the University of California, Berkeley. While a graduate student, he conducted part of his research at Brookhaven National Laboratory where also painted the Long Island landscape. He completed all course work for the Ph.D. and a significant part of his dissertation before abandoning physics for art in 1990. In 1994 he attended the Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture and in the same

year he earned a MFA with the department's highest distinction from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He currently lives and works in Los Angeles, California.

About Anderson Ranch

Founded in 1966, Anderson Ranch Arts Center is a premier destination in America for art making and critical dialogue, bringing together aspiring and internationally renowned artists to discuss and further their work in a stimulating environment. Nestled in the Rocky Mountains of Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado, the Ranch hosts extensive workshops for every day, emerging and established artists in eight disciplines, including Photography & New Media, Ceramics, Painting & Drawing, Furniture Design & Woodworking, Sculpture, Woodturning, Printmaking and Digital Fabrication.

In addition to the Summer Series: Featured Artists & Conversations, the Ranch also hosts engaging events throughout the year including: the Recognition Dinner (Thursday, July 20, 2017) honoring the National Artist Award, Service to the Arts Award and Extraordinary Leadership Award recipients; the Annual Art Auction & Community Picnic (Saturday, August 5, 2017), a thirty-seven-year-old tradition which features works of local, national and international artists; and the Artists-in-Residence Program, fostering artistic growth for emerging and established visual artists. In 2016 Anderson Ranch celebrated its 50th anniversary, furthering its mission to enrich lives with art, inspiration and community.

Learn more at www.andersonranch.org or [970/923.3181](tel:9709233181).

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