

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Anna Valdez
New Patterns

November 13, 2020 – December 31, 2021

Two Day Socially Distanced Opening Reception: **Friday, November 13, 2020, from 5 - 8pm & Saturday, November 14, 2020, from 12 - 5pm**

****No appointment necessary, facemask required for entry, maximum 10 people admitted at a time*

Artist in attendance / Free and open to the public

David B. Smith Gallery is proud to announce *New Patterns*, a solo exhibition by Oakland, CA-based artist Anna Valdez. Featuring large-scale oil paintings and brightly patterned ceramic vessels, new life is breathed into the art historical tradition of the still life, where the mundane and exotic coalesce into moments of joy, discovery, and inspiration.

Through both staged and chance arrangements in her studio, Valdez creates a sense of intimacy with viewers, set to the backdrop of her vast collection of ornate textiles and lush potted plants. Various objects in her paintings act as both personal symbol and chance captured moment, offering a playful glimpse into the physical and psychological spaces of the artist's studio. Autobiography innately plays a role in works, as Valdez, a once aspiring sociocultural anthropologist, is keenly aware of the potential for narrative that emerges from artifacts and environment.

Bounding with color, traveling in and out of spaces real and imagined, the interiority of the domestic sphere meets the outside world via window scenes within the compositions. Patterns and habits, formed by lives being rerouted by hurdles and desires alike, offer us opportunities to reassess and reenvision our reality. Visually alluding to repetition, as colorful ceramics presented in the exhibition are also carefully worked into paintings, Valdez traces the viewer's gaze through her studio, over textural arrangements of personal possessions, and then beyond the architecture of the room itself. In *New Patterns*, Anna Valdez harnesses her curiosity and affection for her personal space while allowing for the potential of discovery beyond the walls of the familiar; alternating between two and three dimensional works, embellishing as necessary, imagining potential beyond what is immediately available.



Image: Anna Valdez, *Birds*, 2020, oil on canvas, 72 x 72 in. (182.9 x 182.9 cm)

About Anna Valdez

Anna Valdez received her MFA in painting from Boston University in 2013. Her work has been exhibited in museums and galleries across the United States. Valdez's work has been featured in Juxtapoz Magazine, New American Paintings, and Booooooom.com. Her work has recently been exhibited at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, North Carolina Museum of Art, New Britain Museum of American Art, Masur Museum of Art, the Danforth Museum, The Richard Heller Gallery in Santa Monica, CA, Hashimoto Contemporary and the Eleanor Harwood Gallery in San Francisco, The Nancy Margolis Gallery in NYC, and Dianna Witte Gallery in Toronto Canada.

About David B. Smith Gallery

David B. Smith Gallery is committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions in its Denver location, featuring the region's most important emerging talent alongside internationally recognized artists. Through its curatorial program, participation in art fairs, and extensive media coverage in publications such as Art in America and ARTnews, David B. Smith Gallery has cultivated a strong regional, national and international collector audience. The New York Times hailed the gallery as offering "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works" and The Denver Post declared that it is the "premiere commercial space" in Denver. The gallery also maintains an active publishing division, which produces exhibition catalogues and editions.