



# THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MOCA PRESENTS ANA SEGOVIA'S FIRST SOLO  
MUSEUM EXHIBITION IN THE U.S.**

**November 23, 2024-May 4, 2025**  
MOCA Grand Avenue



Ana Segovia, *Through Mario's perspective* (detail), 2024. Oil on linen, 49 ¼ × 157 ½ in. (125 × 400 cm) (overall). © Ana Segovia. Image courtesy of the artist and kurimanzutto, Mexico City / New York.

**LOS ANGELES**—The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) is pleased to present *MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia* from November 23, 2024 through May 4, 2025 at MOCA Grand Avenue. The first solo museum exhibition in the United States for artist Ana Segovia (b. 1991, Mexico City, where he lives), the exhibition displays luscious paintings that twist assumptions of masculinity through a queer lens. *MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia* is organized by José Luis Blondet, Senior Curator, with Emilia Nicholson-Fajardo, Curatorial Assistant, and Anastasia Kahn, former Curatorial Assistant.

"We are delighted to bring the second installment of the relaunched MOCA Focus series to life with *MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia*," said Johanna Burton, The Maurice Marciano Director. "This series has played an instrumental role in the careers of an illustrious group of artists over the years, and we are thrilled to once again demonstrate our commitment to providing

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crucial opportunities for artists to work deeply and with concentrated institutional support on their first solo museum exhibition in Los Angeles.”

“It has been a pleasure to help bring Segovia’s visions to fruition at MOCA Grand Avenue,” said Blondet. “*MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia* presents a group of paintings that crystalize the artist’s interest in queering stillness and movement, a longstanding preoccupation in painting that Segovia has embraced with precision, inventiveness, and a good dose of wit and camp.”

Working with an aggressive palette of fluorescent colors, daring compositions, and cinematographic framing and cropping, Segovia undermines the gendered basis of national identities built around hypermasculine archetypes—such as the charro or cowboy—that have been standardized by film. In *MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia*, the artist continues his engagement with film archives, this time turning to Roger E. Alamos’s *I’ve Been Meaning to Tell You* (1983). The film, a variation on 1980s musical dramas a la *Footloose*, recounts a queer love story between Buck, an aspiring artist, and Mario, an undocumented dreamer, both working as ranch hands in a fictional Southwestern town.

The exhibition presents three suites of paintings illustrating stills from crucial scenes in the film, including the diptych *Through Mario’s perspective* (2024), which was commissioned for this presentation. Segovia’s theatrical display strategies reflect on the interplay between stillness and movement that inform his paintings. For this project, the provocative placement of the paintings on two wall-to-wall wooden structures designed by the artist entices the viewer to move their body in a manner not unlike cruising or the exchange of covert glances in public spaces. Additionally, this exhibition includes copies of Alamos’s script and a mural based on the film’s end credits, both of which subtly stage an unexpected plot twist that is revealed in the galleries.

## **PUBLICATION**

*MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia* is accompanied by a fully-illustrated publication designed by Iván Martínez that features an essay by the curator of the exhibition. The catalogue, Segovia’s first museum publication, is part of the Nimoy Emerging Artist Publication Series (Nimoy Series), which provides artists with a crucial publishing opportunity at a breakthrough moment in their careers. The Nimoy Series is made possible thanks to generous support from Susan Bay Nimoy and her late husband, Leonard Nimoy, through the Nimoy Fund for Emerging Artists.

## **CREDITS**

*MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia* is organized by José Luis Blondet, Senior Curator, with Emilia Nicholson-Fajardo, Curatorial Assistant, and Anastasia Kahn, former Curatorial Assistant, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

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Admission to *MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia* is free courtesy of Carolyn Clark Powers.

## ABOUT ANA SEGOVIA

Ana Segovia (b. 1991, Mexico City) received his BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), specializing in painting and drawing. In the spring of 2020, he participated in the Casa Wabi Residency, Puerto Escondido, Mexico. A selection of his solo shows include; *MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia*, The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Los Angeles (2024); *Meditations in an Emergency*, Paris 16, Mexico City (2024); *Paisajes*, Galería Karen Huber, Mexico City (2022); *Boys Ranch*, PAOS, Guadalajara, Mexico (2021); *Can't Sleep with the Man who Dims My Shine*, MONTI8, Latina, Italy (2021); *Pos' se acabó este cantar*, Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico City (2021); *La Faena*, Museo Taurino y Cantina, Mexico City (2020); *Toy Boy*, Galería Karen Huber, Mexico City (2019); *It's not what it looks like*, FUEGO, Mexico City (2018); *Boys and Boots*, LTD, Los Angeles (2017); and *A Boy Named Sue*, Galería Karen Huber, Mexico City (2017). His work has also been included in numerous group exhibitions such as: *Stranieri Ovunque – Foreigners Everywhere*, 60th Biennale di Venezia (2024); *Sintonías inestables: repensando la contemporaneidad pictórica*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey (MARCO), Mexico (2024); *Teddy Sandoval and the Butch Gardens School of Art*, Vincent Price Museum, Los Angeles (2023); *Cowboy*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver, CO (2023); *Who Tells a Tale Adds a Tail: Latin America and Contemporary Art*, Denver Art Museum, CO (2022); *Juventud en Éxtasis*, Biquini Wax, Mexico City (2022); *Para Morelio*, PEANA, Monterrey, Mexico (2021); *Normal Exceptions: Contemporary Art in Mexico*, Museo Jumex, Mexico City (2021); *Otrxs mundxs*, Museo Tamayo, Mexico City, (2020); *Building Narratives*, MONTI8, Latina, Italy (2020); *Them*, Galerie Perrotin, New York, NY (2019); *Everyday Muse*, LTD, Los Angeles, CA (2018); *I am Not Bird*, LTD, Los Angeles, CA (2018); *In the Company of Flowers*, Galería Kruger, Chicago, IL (2016); Gallery SAIC Sullivan, Chicago, IL (2016); and *Advanced Pain*, Cry Baby Gallery, Chicago, IL (2015).

Segovia's works are part of the following institutional collections: Denver Art Museum, CO; Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), FL; Colección Jumex, Mexico City; and Alumnos 47, Mexico City.

Segovia lives and works in Mexico City.

## ABOUT MOCA FOCUS

Between 1992 and 1999, Focus exhibitions offered an important platform for artists to present their work in their first solo museum presentation in Los Angeles. Dedicated to exhibitions of distinct bodies of work in a broad range of media, the series featured a roster of distinguished local and international artists, including Renée Green (1993), Franz West (1994), Felix Gonzalez-Torres (1994), Hiroshi Sugimoto (1994), Margaret Honda (1994–95), Toba Khedoori (1997), Catherine Opie (1997–98), and Jorge Pardo (1998). In the mid-2000s, the refreshed MOCA Focus series shifted to feature primarily emerging Los Angeles-based artists, presenting the first L.A. 4 museum solo exhibitions for Eric Wesley (2006), Lecia Dole-Recio (2006), Alexandra Grant (2007), and Sterling Ruby (2008). With its return in 2023, MOCA Focus revived its mission of giving artists at the forefront of contemporary art their first museum presentation in Los Angeles and acknowledges the global dialogue to which Los Angeles actively participates and contributes. The series relaunched in November 2023 with *MOCA Focus: Eddie Rodolfo Aparacio* at The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA. Featured artists work closely with MOCA's Curatorial and Exhibition teams to develop new work or present recent work, receiving support to produce and contextualize their practice. Each exhibition is accompanied by a monographic catalogue, which documents the artist's work and includes a discursive essay written by the curator.

## ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART (MOCA)

Founded in 1979, MOCA is the defining museum of contemporary art. In a relatively short time, MOCA has achieved astonishing growth: a world-class collection of nearly 8,000 objects, international in scope with deep holdings in Los Angeles art; hallmark education programs that are widely emulated; award-winning publications that present original scholarship; groundbreaking monographic, touring, and thematic exhibitions of international repute that survey the art of our time; and cutting-edge engagement with new modes of media production. MOCA is a not-for-profit institution that relies on a variety of funding sources for its activities.

**Current:**

[Josh Kline: Climate Change](#)

MOCA Grand Avenue

On view through January 5, 2025

[Olafur Eliasson: OPEN](#)

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA

On view through July 5, 2025

[Wonmi's WAREHOUSE Programs](#)

WAREHOUSE at The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA

Through November 16, 2024

**Upcoming:**

[Ordinary People: Photorealism and the Work of Art since 1968](#)

MOCA Grand Avenue

November 23, 2024-May 4, 2025

[MOCA Focus: Ana Segovia](#)

MOCA Grand Avenue November 23, 2024-May 4, 2025

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