Cecilia Paredes Polack (1950) is a Peruvian artist whose life has taken her from Lima, México D.F., Rome, and San José —where she lived for twenty-four years—to the United States of America, where she currently resides.

Paredes pioneered intimacy art —in which body, memory, and the feminine voice play a key role—in Costa Rica. Likewise, she created precedents in the development of works of an objectual and installative nature, as well as in the use of organic resources and discarded objects as raw material in her work. She also made significant contributions to the exploration of the artist’s body as a referent and a means of expression, and in the development of photoperformance.

Cecilia Paredes Polack

Conversation with the artist

Cecilia Paredes
Date: Friday, September 9
Time: 2:00 pm
Open to the general public

Workshop:
Incitement of the Senses on Those Who Migrate
Led by: X Comunicación Experimental
Saturday, October 1 and October 8
1:30 to 4:00 pm
Aimed at teen and adult publics

Discussion:
Body and Representation in Art
Tuesday, November 15
6:00 pm
Open to the general public

Movie Festival:
Displacement
Tuesday, October 7, 14, 21 and 28
6:00 pm
Open to the general public

Debate:
Migrations
Tuesday, March 7
6:00 pm
Open to the general public

We offer ongoing cultural activities related to this exhibition:

Conversational tours for this exhibition are available for elementary, high school and university students. All of our activities are free. Interested parties must sign up ahead of time with the Department of Education by calling 2243-4208. Opening hours are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday.

Find out more about the Museums of the Central Bank of Costa Rica at:

www.museosdelbancocentral.org
Telephone: 2243-4202
E-mail: museos@bccr.fi.cr

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Nature is fundamental in Paredes’ work. It is a trigger for inquiry, a field of study, and a revelation all at once. It is also a symbol, a discursive device, an aesthetic referent, a support, and raw material for creation. This reference to nature takes on a ritual dimension.

The feather in her works is a symbol of empowerment related to birds, flight, and displacement. This is particularly important in her work and is associated to other aspects, such as the history of pre-Columbian Peruvian societies.

Mutation is a ritual of sorts in her work. The artist’s strategy of meshing herself into an organic, animal or urban entourage gives her a new identity, therefore stating that “I” is in perpetual transformation. To achieve this, she makes use of her own body by employing body intervention techniques. This technique is present in the Paisajes (Landscapes) series, where the artist touches upon the experiences of uprootal and the new sense of belonging that stem from her own biography.

“I’ve appropriated the landscape, and now I’m part of it; I wear it on my skin.” Cecilia Paredes

The Perpetual Wanderer is a collection of works based on the migratory experience of Cecilia Paredes.

The artist proposes a metaphorical approach on immigration building upon her personal history, in which belonging, displacement, and adaptation are fundamental in the transformational process experienced when abroad.