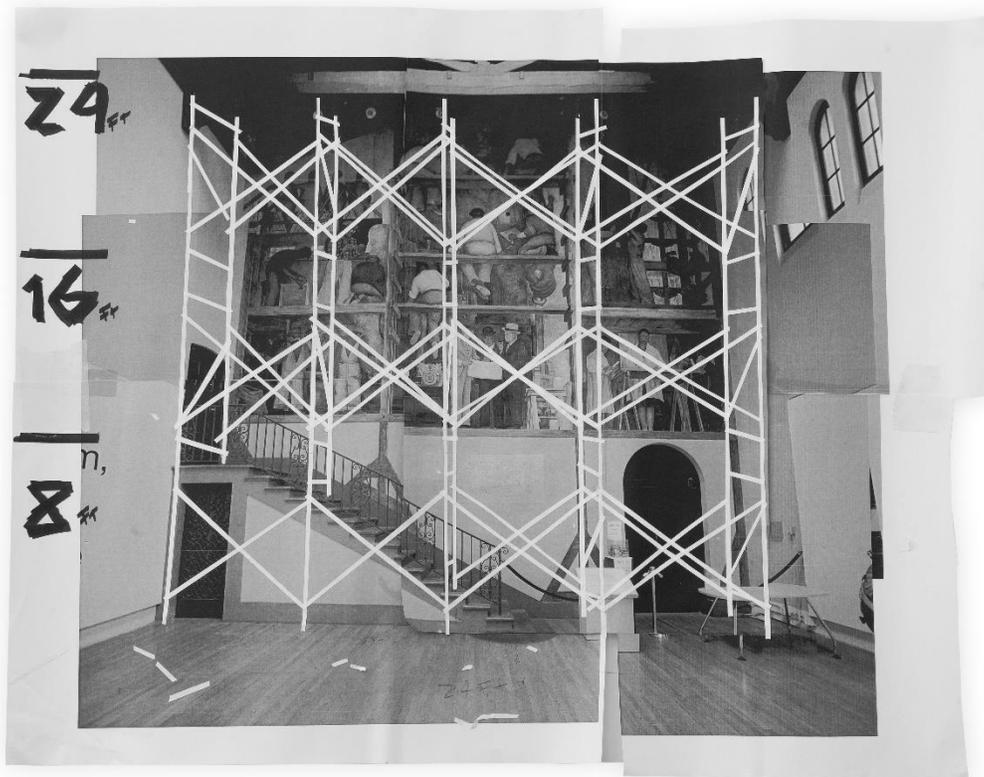


Alejandro Almanza Pereda: Everything but the kitchen sank
presents ambitious new works from SFAI artist-in-residence

Exhibition features 24-foot tall fluorescent scaffolding in front of iconic Diego Rivera mural, transforms Walter and McBean Galleries into underwater photography studio



Study for site-specific intervention with Diego Rivera's The Making of a Fresco Showing the Building of a City (1931), 2015. Courtesy of the artist and SFAI.

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San Francisco, Calif. (July 15, 2015) – San Francisco Art Institute presents 2015 Harker Award recipient and artist-in-residence Alejandro Almanza Pereda's *Everything but the kitchen sank*, on display now through December 12 in the Diego Rivera Gallery and July 28-October 3 in the Walter and McBean Galleries. This ambitious exhibition spans two gallery spaces — in the Diego Rivera Gallery, Pereda has erected *Change the world or go home* (2009-2015), a 24-foot tall fluorescent scaffolding structure in front of the iconic work *The Making of a Fresco*

Showing the Building of a City (1931), simultaneously illuminating and obscuring one of the institution's most-treasured and historically significant works.

"Diego Rivera's *The Making of a Fresco Showing the Building of a City* (1931) has a curious history at SFAI, and has long spurred interventions by students and artists," states Hesse McGraw, the exhibition's curator and Vice President for Exhibitions and Public Programs at SFAI. "For Almanza, the addition of this fluorescent scaffolding adds a new screen through which we understand a narrative of historical imbalance with regard to the artistic legacy of Rivera and his place in Latin America artistic practice."

Meanwhile, in the Walter and McBean Galleries, Pereda has transformed the space into an active studio, where he will spend July and August experimenting and producing new works inside a water tank built specifically for the exhibition. The final component of the exhibition, held in September and October, will be a presentation of still life photographs and videos captured under water.



Video still from *Better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all*, 2014. Courtesy of the artist.

"Pereda's still lifes are governed by a singular, uncanny logic – they manipulate the viewer's sense of gravity and balance to bring unexpected buoyancy to everyday objects," explains SFAI's McGraw. "*Everything but the kitchen sank* turns Pereda's process into performance, revealing the precarious experimentation behind his photographic and video works."

Alejandro Almanza Pereda: Everything but the kitchen sank is organized by San Francisco Art Institute and curated by Hesse McGraw, Vice President for Exhibitions and Public Programs. The works for *Everything but the kitchen sank* were produced during Almanza's 2015 residency at SFAI. The exhibition and associated events are free and open to all.

Gallery Hours – Alejandro Almanza Pereda: Everything but the kitchen sank

Diego Rivera Gallery | June 20 – December 12

Open daily, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Walter and McBean Galleries | July 28 – October 3

Tuesday, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Wednesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Related Events – Alejandro Almanza Pereda: *Everything but the kitchen sank*

Opening: Exhibition-in-Production

Alejandro Almanza Pereda and Hesse McGraw in conversation at 7 p.m.

Walter and McBean Galleries + Diego Rivera Gallery

Thursday, July 30, 6:30–9 p.m.

Opening Reception

Walter and McBean Galleries + Diego Rivera Gallery

Friday, September 11, 7–9 p.m.

About Alejandro Almanza Pereda

Alejandro Almanza Pereda produces sculptures, photos, videos, public works, and installations that highlight our emotional relationships with objects through works that appear unstable, immaterial, or on the cusp of disaster. Born in Mexico in 1977, Almanza received his MFA from Hunter College in New York. He has presented solo shows at Museo Experimental El Eco, Mexico City; College of Wooster Art Museum, Ohio; and Art in General, New York. Almanza's work can be found in international collections including the Arizona State University Art Museum; the Goetz Collection, Munich; El Museo del Barrio, New York; Colección Júmex, Mexico City; and Museo de Arte de Lima. He is a member of La Rubia te Besa, an art band project, and lives and works in Mexico City.

About the Harker Award for Interdisciplinary Studies

Almanza is the 2015 recipient of The Harker Award for Interdisciplinary Studies, which supports artists-in-residence at San Francisco Art Institute. The Harker Award was established through a generous bequest by artist and SFAI faculty member Ann Chamberlain and is administered by the San Francisco Foundation. The works for *Everything but the kitchen sank* were produced during Almanza's 2015 residency at SFAI.

About San Francisco Art Institute

San Francisco Art Institute (SFAI), founded in 1871, is one of the country's oldest and most prestigious institutions of higher education in the practice and study of contemporary art. As a diverse community of working artists and scholars, SFAI provides students with a rigorous education in the arts and preparation for a life in the arts through an immersive studio environment, an integrated liberal arts and art history curriculum, and critical engagement with the world. Committed to educating artists who will shape the future of art, culture, and society, SFAI fosters creativity and original thinking in an open, experimental, and interdisciplinary context.

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