

INVITATION

STATE OF DISAPPEARANCE
ART ON CAMPUS



Invitation to the private launch of our new exhibition
featuring the artwork of Chantal Meza.

Thursday
September 26th 2024



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

INTRODUCTION

We would like to invite you to the private launch of the State of Disappearance art exhibition that will take place on the evening of Thursday September 26th, 2024, at the Chancellors Building, The University of Bath, Claverton Down, from 5pm.

Exploring how art can improve the educational experience for students and faculty, this exhibition will bring into our learning environment artworks that are inspiring, sensitive to the issues humanity faces, while also presenting challenging concerns in a thoughtful and enriching way. This exhibition features the work of the UK-based Mexican abstract painter, Chantal Meza. Driven to respond to the endemic problem of enforced disappearance in her home country, she produced the extensive collection of works over a 5-year period starting in 2017. Like many countries around the world, enforced disappearance remains an acute problem that devastates communities and families who are forced to live with its reality.

But disappearance can also take many different forms. From the physical disappearance of humans to the disappearance of cultures, languages, belief systems, ideals and of course the disappearance of ecologies and our shared biosphere, it reveals back to us through the absences created a terrifying psychological wounding.

As a poignant and sobering reminder, the exhibition is also launched on the date marking the 10th anniversary of the disappearance of the students from Ayotzinapa, Mexico. Students should feel safe and free, wherever they are in this world. For this reason, among others, the artist believes these works belong in a university setting, for it is through education and the union between images and thoughts, that new worlds are reimagined. Worlds that are more peaceful, welcoming, and open to our shared differences.

Professor Phil Taylor, *Vice Chancellor*

Professor Deborah Wilson, *Dean of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences*





Chantal Meza is a Mexican painter living and working in the United Kingdom. Her work has featured in exhibitions, auctions and biennials in prominent Museums and Galleries in Mexico, United Kingdom, Germany and Paraguay.

She has delivered many international lectures and workshops at reputable universities and has been commissioned publicly and privately. She was awarded a notable public recognition for her contribution to art in her home province in Puebla, Mexico and recently held a solo show in the City of Bristol and MOMA, Wales. She is the author of numerous articles on art and coeditor of a book dealing with disappearance, which features her artworks published by McGill-Queens University Press.

"Through art, not
only can we
witness the
beauty and the
pain of this world.
We can feel it.
And we can
transform it"

Chantal Meza

RSVP

To confirm attendance please
respond to the invitation email or
write to:

advancement-events@bath.ac.uk

5pm-8pm

6pm: Commencement of welcome talks



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