



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

An Art in General New Commission

**Juanli Carrión:
*Zea***

Curated by Kristen Chappa

Workshops:

Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 6-8:30pm
Saturday, February 4, 2017, 1-3:30pm
Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 6-8:30pm
Saturday, February 11, 2017, 1-3:30pm

Art in General

145 Plymouth Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
www.artingeneral.org



Juanli Carrión, *Pigmentum*, 2016. Courtesy the artist and Y Gallery.

Artist's tour:

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 6-8pm

Art in General is pleased to announce a series of newly commissioned culinary workshops with Juanli Carrión. The project manifests in an interstitial space between performance, artist lecture, and participatory sculpture, engaging the recipe as a type of choreographic instruction and record of historical and cultural significance. Using corn as a central material, *Zea* reflects on contemporary forms of economic domination in the Americas.

The workshops and installation reference the role of corn in global economies; how this ancient crop has been transformed from an essential food to one of the most important currencies in the world, now produced primarily for raising livestock and the creation of ethanol fuel. The contextual installation investigates various appropriations of indigenous iconography by financial institutions and multinational corporations—elements draw from existing symbolism in the pre-Columbian cultures of Mesoamerica and northern South America, as well as the brand identities of companies including Starbucks, HSBC, Citgo, and Chevron, that are engaged in economic colonialism throughout Latin America.

Workshop participants will prepare dishes made from ground maize—arepas, gorditas, and pupusas—each a variation on a similar preparation of flatbread in countries including Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, and El Salvador. These recipes all hold specific meaning in their locations of origin, however there is common confusion and generalization among these foods when consumed in the United States, reflecting a perceived homogenization of diverse Latin American cultures. These artist-led events engage the tradition of cooking and mealtime as an opportunity for collectivity, knowledge-sharing, and collaborative creation.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE?—Please RSVP by mail to social@artingeneral.org to attend a workshop with the artist, requesting dates in order of preference. Space is limited and reservations will be confirmed in the order received. All events are free of charge, and RSVP is not required for the public artist's tour on February 15.

Juanli Carrión (b. 1982) lives and works in Brooklyn. Solo and group exhibitions include the Contemporary Art Museum of the Basque Country ARTIUM, Centro Parraga, La Casa Encendida, and La Panera Art Center (Spain); Art Institute of Chicago, Abrons Art Center, and Whitebox (USA); Ex-Teresa Museum, San Luís Potosi Center for the Arts and MUPO (Mexico); The Royal West of England Academy (UK), Museum of Contemporary Art (Peru), and the National Museum of Art (Trinidad & Tobago). Carrión has been in residency at Espaço Fonte in Brazil, LMCC and ISCP in New York, Nagoya University in Japan, ADM in Mexico, and Kuona Trust in Kenya. In 2012, he was awarded the Visual Arts Prize *Generación 2012* by Caja Madrid Foundation, Spain. In 2014, he started *Outer Seed Shadow (OSS)*, a series of public interventions in the form of geopolitical gardens commissioned by NYC Parks, La Nau, and La Conservera Contemporary Art Center, among others. juanlicarrion.com

For media enquiries, please contact:

Sascha Freudenheim, PAVE Communications & Consulting
sascha@paveconsult.com
+1 917-544-6057



Art in General was founded in 1981 and supports the production of new work by local and international artists primarily through its New Commissions Program and its International Collaborations program. Art in General also produces an annual symposium *What Now?* on critical and timely issues in artistic and curatorial practice.

General Support of Art in General is provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services; the New York State Council on the Arts with support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; the Toby D. Lewis Donor Advised Fund of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland; and by individuals. This program is also supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

The New Commissions Program provides in-depth support for eight to ten artists each year, for the creation of major new works, including the financial, logistical, promotional, and presentation assistance necessary to bring these works to new audiences world-wide. It is made possible by the Trust for Mutual Understanding; National Endowment for the Arts; Jerome Foundation; Ruth Ivor Foundation; The Greenwich Collection; and the Milton and Sally Avery Foundation. Support has also been provided by: Commissioners' Circle leader Elaine Goldman, Jeffery Larsen and Joseph Bolduc; Commissioners' Circle supporters Richard Massey, and David Solo; and Commissioners' Circle members Nader Ansary, Rob Colangelo, Don Erenberg, Taymour Grahne, Roya Khadjavi-Heidari, Mary Lapidés, Leslie Ruff, and Diana Wege.

The *What Now?* Symposium, and accompanying book series from 2015-2017, is generously supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (MA-10-14-0304-14).

