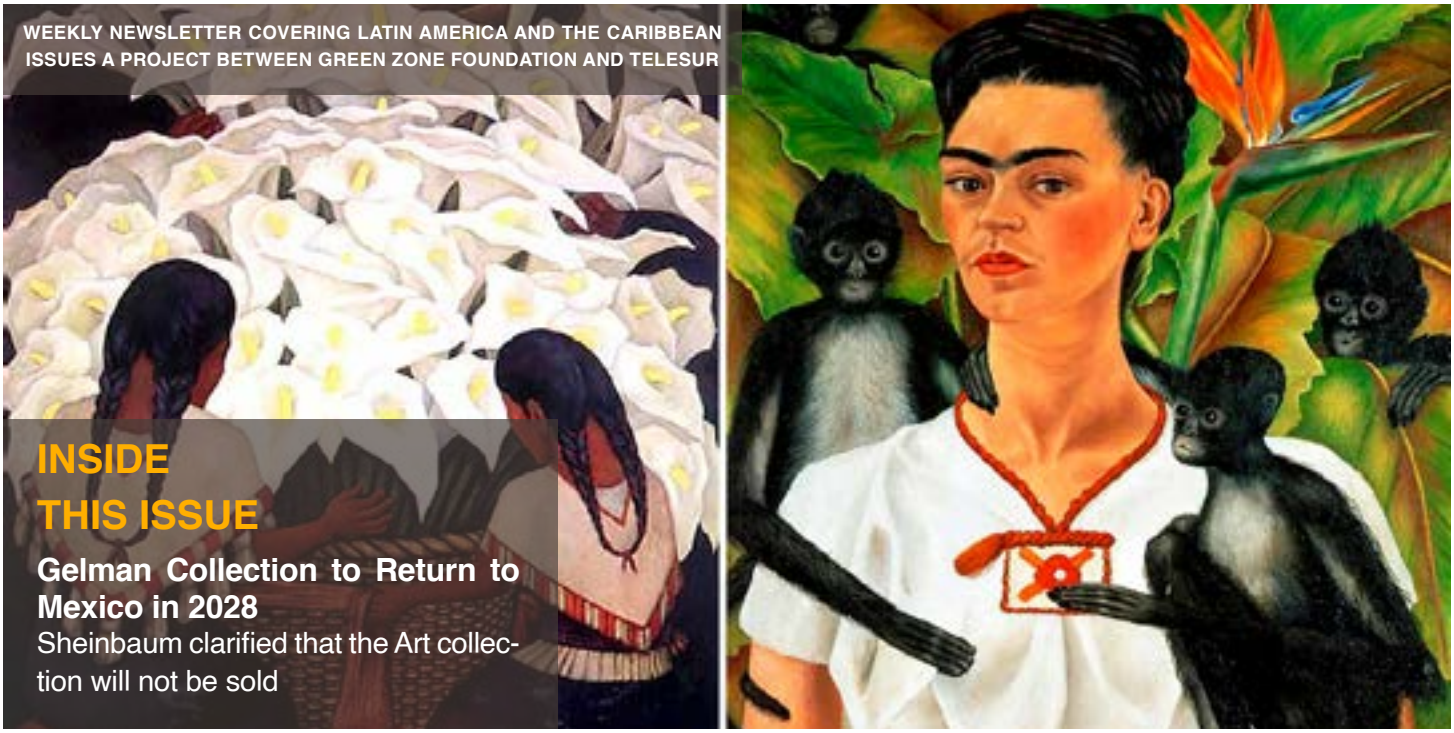
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NEWSLETTER

A VISION OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER COVERING LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ISSUES A PROJECT BETWEEN GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION AND TELESUR



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

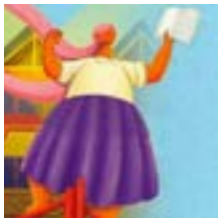
Gelman Collection to Return to Mexico in 2028
Sheinbaum clarified that the Art collection will not be sold



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Bolivia: El Alto International Book Fair Kicks Off

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Minnesota Celebrates 17th Edition of Cuban Film Festival

The Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Art and the Minneapolis/St. Paul Film Society supported the festival.

The state of Minnesota celebrated the 17th edition of the Cuban Film Festival, intending to strengthen cultural ties between Cuba and the United States...



Mexico Demands Suspension of Auction of Mesoamerican Artifacts in Monaco

The objects are archaeological and historical artifacts protected by Federal Law.

On Wednesday, the Mexican Ministry of Culture demanded the suspension of an auction in Monaco organized by Accademia Fine Art...

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Green Zone Foundation
emayma@gz.foundation
gzflanguage

www.gz.foundation/language

GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION

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Colombian publisher Benjamin Villegas has opened his half-century archive and transformed it into a more accessible publishing collection called ‘Anthology of Colombia,’ featuring medium-sized, lightweight, and affordable books.

For decades, Villegas Editores was known for publishing large-format books with high-quality graphics, becoming a benchmark in the Colombian publishing sector, with works that traveled abroad as cultural symbols.

The new project aims to reissue 170 titles whose rights belong to Villegas, as he commissioned texts, financed research, and sent photographers throughout Colombia.

‘Anthology of Colombia’ will bring together texts and images on art, architecture, crafts, photography, flora, fauna, urban history, customs, festivals, archaeology, and anthropology, with 36 titles planned for the first year.

On April 16, he will present three initial titles: ‘Luis Caballero Tribute’ with text by Antonio Caballero, ‘The Flavor of Colombia’ about traditional cuisine, and ‘Colombia Dreams and Adventures’ with Andres Hurtado.

The collection will be bilingual, in Spanish and English, designed for Colombians abroad and students, offering a portable format that maintains a cultural connection with the country in an accessible way.

With this project, Villegas seeks to give a second life to an irreplaceable archive, bringing together works that established a well-researched and visual image of Colombia.

Bolivia: El Alto International Book Fair Kicks Off

This year's edition includes emerging authors presenting their first works.



The El Alto International Book Fair in Bolivia is celebrating its third edition with nearly 100 exhibitors, including 70 national and 21 international exhibitors from Peru, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, and England.

Editor David Caicedo explained that this year is distinguished by the inclusion of emerging authors presenting their first works, offering public novels, short stories, poetry, chronicles, essays, and history.

Among the featured authors is Barbara Antelo from Santa Cruz, whose novel "The Best Kept Secret," a saga that has already sold 7,000 copies in Bolivia. Juvinca Arredondo and Raymundo Quispe are also contributing innovative narratives.

The fair is attracting a large number of students, who find in the event an opportunity to engage with reading. Coordinator Daniel Calderon said that the event attracts more than 6,000 visitors daily, with a strong presence of educational institutions. participating as the Guest City of Honor, with a delegation from Puno, to showcase its literary production. Carlos Chavez-Tafur, Peruvian ambassador to Bolivia, inaugurated the event along with the president of the La Paz Departmental Chamber of Books, Carlos Ostermann, and the Vice Minister of Culture, Dario Zaratti.

The Peruvian delegation includes authorities such as Eladia de la Riva Valle, Ricardo Alvarez, Luis Luna de la Cruz, Yasmani Vitulas Quille, Jose Morales Serruto, and Juan Vilca Vilca, as well as cultural and academic representatives.

On April 2nd, the book "Jilaqatas, Awkis and Taykas: Rosqueada de Pomata" was presented, highlighting the Aymara culture shared by Peru and Bolivia, reaffirming cultural integration and historical bilateral ties.



Minnesota Celebrates 17th Edition of Cuban Film Festival

The Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Art and the Minneapolis/St. Paul Film Society supported the festival.

The state of Minnesota celebrated the 17th edition of the Cuban Film Festival, intending to strengthen cultural ties between Cuba and the United States through film and music.

The event took place between March 4 and April 1 at The Main Cinema in Minneapolis, featuring premieres and presentations of new directors and actors that resonated with a growing audience.

The documentary "The Mystery of Cuban Music: La Clave," directed by Kurt Hartel, premiered as a tribute to the island's diverse sound, highlighting Afro-Cuban roots and African and European fusions.

The Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Art and Industry (ICAIC) and the Minneapolis/St. Paul Film Society supported the festival, which demonstrates a long-standing bilateral cultural cooperation.

Greg Klave, a member of the Minnesota Committee on Cuba, emphasized the presentation of films by emerging directors, showcasing Cuban locations and actors to residents interested in traveling to the Caribbean island.

The closing ceremony included remarks from Ambassador Lianys Torres, head of the Cuban Mission to the United States, who expressed her gratitude for the solidarity shown toward Cuban culture and emphasized the importance of these events.

A special guest was Gloria Echevarria, known as Gloria "La Niña" Rivera, daughter of Cuban musicians, who performed with her trio, showcasing her family's musical heritage.

Her father, Andres Echevarria "El Niño Rivera," was a tres player, composer, and arranger, considered the "father of tres harmony" for his harmonic contributions to traditional Cuban music.

Since 2010, the Minnesota Cuba Film Festival (MCFF) has brought the best Cuban films to the state, highlighting the achievements and challenges of the Cuban people.





Gelman Collection to Return to Mexico in 2028

Sheinbaum clarified that the Art collection will not be sold.

On Monday, Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum announced that the Gelman Collection will return to the country in 2028, following a period of international exhibition, in compliance with current Mexican law.

The Gelman Collection, currently on display at the Museum of Modern Art in Mexico City, brings together works by iconic 20th-century artists such as Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, Maria Izquierdo, Jose Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros.

In her daily press conference, Sheinbaum clarified that the collection will not be sold nor will it remain abroad indefinitely. Instead, it will tour various countries for two years before returning to Mexico.

Meanwhile, a management agreement with Santander Bank renamed the exhibition the Gelman Santander Collection, which anticipated its future presentation in Spain.

Sheinbaum reiterated that the collection is private, but emphasized that Mexican law permits the international dissemination of artworks, but never their sale, as they form part of the cultural heritage protected by the State.

She explained that Santander Bank is coordinating with the private owners to promote the collection, first in Mexico and then abroad, after its presentation at the Museum of Modern Art, following a twenty-year absence.

The Mexican President emphasized that the Ministry of Culture strictly complies with the law, highlighting that, unlike in the past, the collection is being exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art before its international tour.

Mexico Demands Suspension of Auction of Mesoamerican Artifacts in Monaco

The objects are archaeological and historical artifacts protected by Federal Law.



On Wednesday, the Mexican Ministry of Culture demanded the suspension of an auction in Monaco organized by Accademia Fine Art, where four Mesoamerican artifacts are to be offered.

The National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) ruled that the objects form part of the nation's cultural heritage, meaning they are the property of Mexico, "inalienable and imprescriptible.

The auction, titled "Journal 2: Ancient and Modern Art", was noted by Claudia Curiel de Icaza, head of the Ministry of Culture. She stated it is "subject to legal proceedings" to protect Mexico's cultural heritage.

The official statement from the Ministry of Culture confirmed that the four objects are archaeological and historical artifacts, protected by the Federal Law on Archaeological, Artistic, and Historical Monuments and Zones.

The Ministry stressed that the export of these artifacts has been prohibited since 1827, and therefore, their presence outside the national territory constitutes illicit extraction, contrary to Mexican law.

It reiterated its call to respect the country's cultural heritage, emphasizing that the pieces represent an "invaluable legacy" of ancestral cultures and national history, a memory of the indigenous peoples.

Since 2018, the Mexican government has recovered approximately 16,500 cultural artifacts by fighting auctions in cities such as New York, Paris, and Rome, in addition to intensifying efforts to demand the return of archaeological and artistic assets from foreign governments.


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omayma@gz.foundation
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