

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN
CURATED BY NERY GABRIEL LEMUS



JANUARY 14 - FEBRUARY 18, 2012

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James Baldwin's 1953 autobiographical novel "Go Tell It On The Mountain" explores the dual role of the Christian church in the lives of African-Americans: It is at once a vehicle for control and repression, and also a source of inspiration and community. The novel also paints a picture of racism in the United States. This exhibition, with the same title, finds inspiration in Baldwin's book and attempts to explore how some artists have mined these oppositional forces found in the Christian church to generate political action.

Our American history is filled with accounts of misguided fundamentalists who have used Christianity as means to oppress people, as well as individuals who have used the Christian narrative to validate a passive immobility, perpetuating repression. At the same time, others have found inspiration in the religion and used it as a moral agency for social progress. Leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr. come to mind, as well as the many churches that have aided undocumented immigrants and others at the margins of society. Their acts were not and are not meant to proselytize, but merely to fight against injustice and protect human dignity.

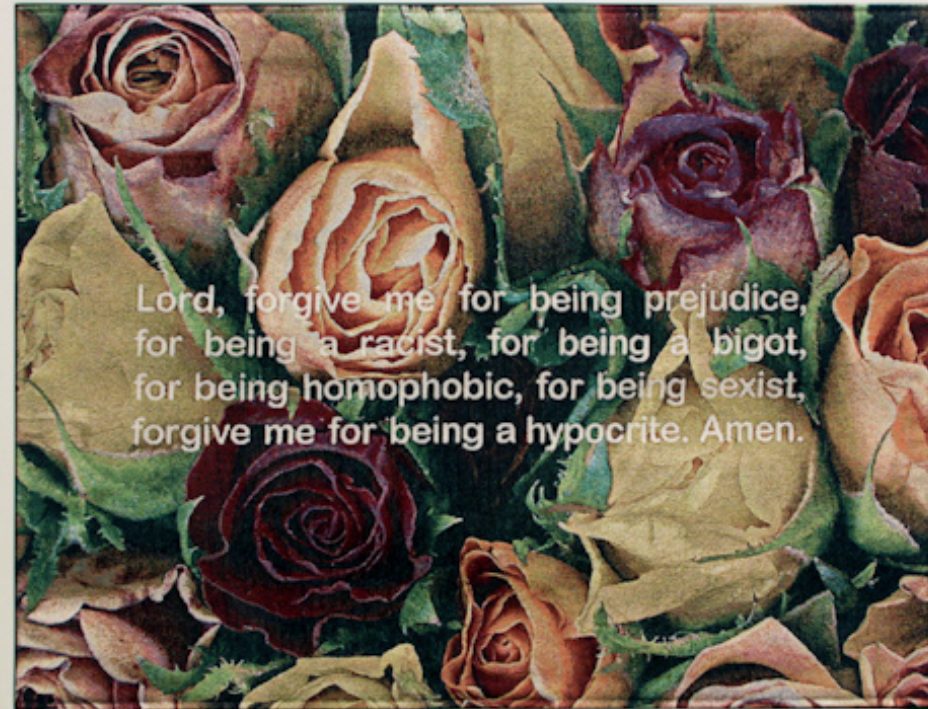


This exhibition borrows the title "Go Tell It on the Mountain" not merely to take inspiration from the crux of Baldwin's novel, but also because these topics need to be told on mountaintops and not hushed up. And, in the telling, to bring us closer to understanding and respect for our differences.

Artists

Rev. Ethan Acres
Edgar Arceneaux
Andrea Bowers
Carolyn Castaño
Alex Donis
Nery Gabriel Lemus
Nikki Pressley
Erika Rothenberg
Sanjit Sethi

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Nery Gabriel Lemus, Hypocrite's Prayer, 2012. Cotton Tapestry, 27 x 35 inches

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Sanjit Sethi, Church Pool, 2007-2012, Mixed Media, 52 x 18 x 15 inches

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Carolyn Castaño, Chocolate Jesus, 2012, Acrylic, glitter,
mixed media on canvas, 52 x 39 inches

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Alex Donis, Nancy De Los Santos (after La Pietà),
2003, Pastel on paper, 34 x 28 inches



Alex Donis, Bianca Bracho (after the Baptism of
Christ), 2003, Pastel on paper, 34 x 28 inches

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Edgar Arceneaux
Matthew 26:27-28, 2011
Acrylic and graphite on
paper
72 x 48 inches



Edgar Arceneaux
Holy Mary, 2011
Acrylic and graphite on paper
72 x 49 inches

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Rev Ethan Acres, Throne for Michal, 2010, Ink on paper, 30 x 23 inches



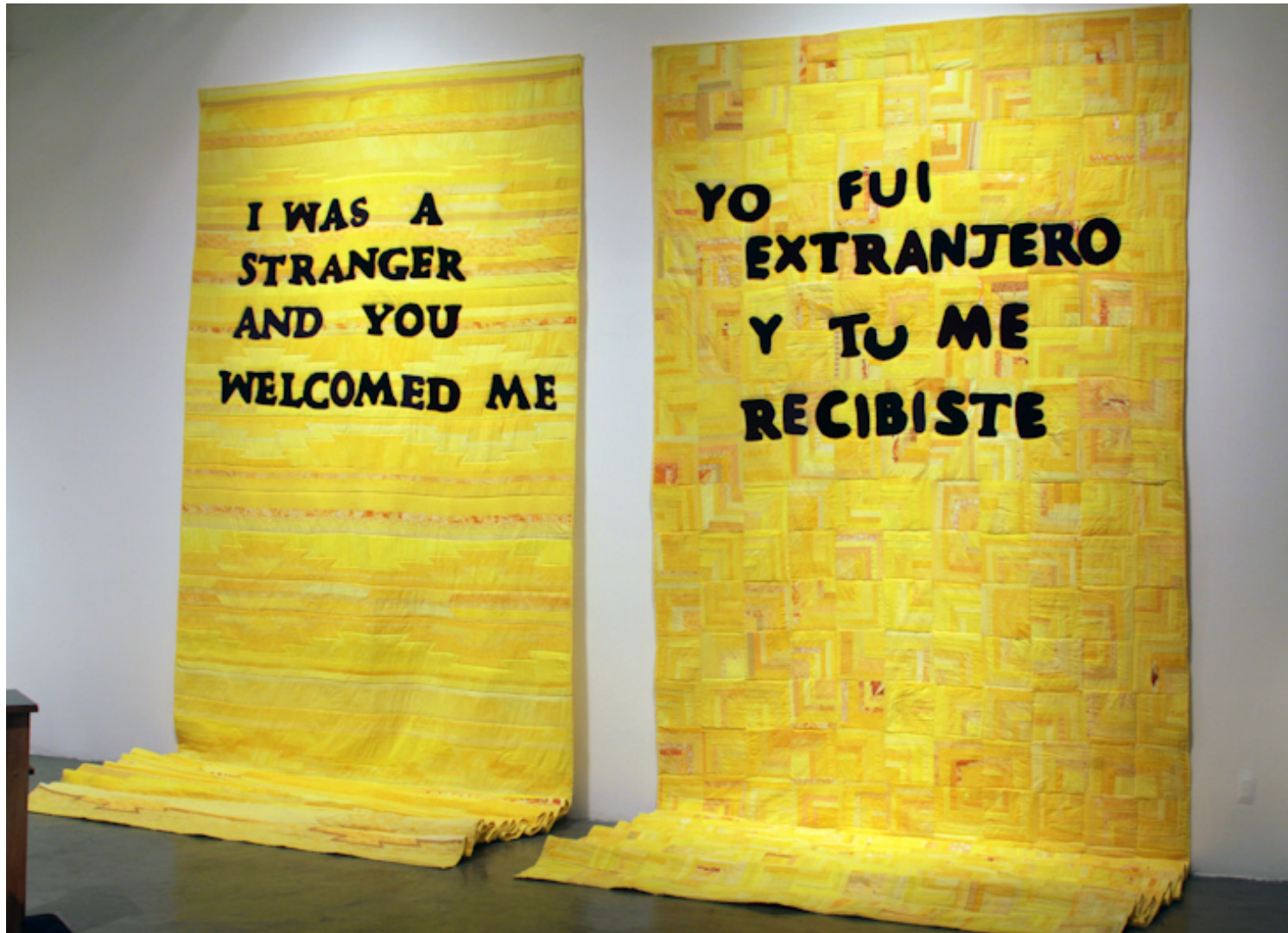
Rev Ethan Acres, Throne for Uzzah, 2010, Ink on paper, 30 x 23 inches

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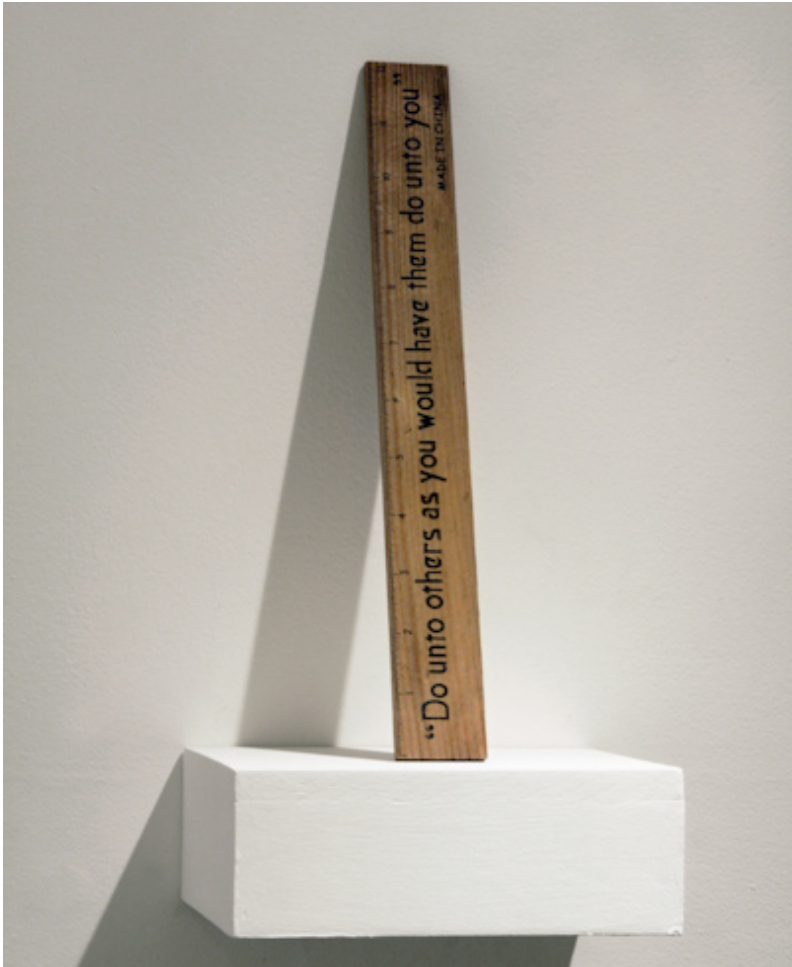
Nikki Pressley, The Messiah is Forthcoming, 2011, mixed media, dimensions variable

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Andrea Bowers, Quilt of Radical Hospitality / Endredon de hospitalidad, 2008, Diptych, Fabric quilt, 432 x 88 inches each

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Nery Gabriel Lemus, *The Golden Rule*, 2012, Mixed Media, 12 x 1.5 inches



Erika Rothenberg, *America's Joyous Future*, 1991-2001, Aluminum signboard with plastic letters, 36 x 24 x 2 inches

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Installation Shots at Charlie James Gallery

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