

LIVING-ROOM: IN BETWEEN REALMS OPENS ON DAY OF THE DEAD IN SOUTHEAST LA

Exhibition features contributions from dozens of community members and addresses deep impact of events of 2020.

South Gate, CA – October 28, 2020 – The [City of South Gate](#) and [Open Walls](#), a SELA based art studio, are pleased to announce the opening of *Living Room: In Between Realms*, an online-only exhibition that brings together dozens of community submissions for Day of the Dead. Southeast Los Angeles is a region that has seen the impact of the pandemic disproportionately affecting its residents. This year, Day of the Dead is a time to not only honor those who have been lost to these circumstances, but also a time to reflect on the region's less-acknowledged history.

Living Room: In Between Realms is the result of a "Call to Community" a grass-roots effort that aimed to collect the histories of all people that lived and currently live in the communities of Southeast Los Angeles (SELA). Day of the Dead is a multi-day celebration in the beginning of November, most notably celebrated in regions of Mexico where people come together to remember their loved ones. In some regions, the festivities include parades, music, and the creation of altars with photographs, candles, foods, and water for the dead. Residents were encouraged to submit photographs of objects, people, artworks, and writing that conveyed their memories. The project, fueled by the events that have transgressed during 2020, is an homage to those who have passed and a celebration of their contributions which have undoubtedly shaped the lives of those who currently live in these neighborhoods.

"It usually takes a long time to process the loss of a loved one. Everyone grieves differently. But as time passes, people become distant memories, something wholly separated from ourselves, and our daily living. That's why Day of the Dead is so important to many regions of Latin America. It keeps the memories alive. Something that Albert and I noticed about the process of death here in the United States was that traditional viewings and cemeteries feel a bit cold and distant. We wanted to create a place that holds you as you process the grief and the loss," said Edlin G. Lopez, Co-Founder and Curator of Open Walls.

Living-Room: In Between Realms opens on Monday, November 2, 2020 on the Open Walls [website](#). There will be a virtual vigil from 5pm-9pm on Monday, November 2nd, where the virtual exhibit will be projected on the back of the Girls Club House in South Gate Park. Edlin G. Lopez, Curator of Open Walls, will provide opening remarks after which the community is welcome to share memories in this virtual space from 6-9pm. Register at: <https://bit.ly/2Tenqnk>

About the City of South Gate:

Located in the heart of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area, the City of South Gate is a busy, urban community consisting of residential, commercial, and industrial development spread over 7.4 square miles. It currently ranks as the 73rd largest city in California and 17th largest in Los Angeles County with a population of 98,633. South Gate is known for its outstanding city

services, remarkable parks and recreation facilities, and family-friendly environment. South Gate operates 9 parks that total nearly 170 acres. The city's largest park, South Gate Park, houses the main recreational facilities and community programs for residents and the public.

For more information, please visit www.cityofsouthgate.org or follow us on Facebook at: facebook.com/CityofSouthGate, Instagram [@southgateca](https://instagram.com/southgateca), [@southgatemuseum](https://instagram.com/southgatemuseum), and Twitter [@southgatecagov](https://twitter.com/southgatecagov).

About Open Walls:

Open Walls is a studio founded on the principle of creating moments of access for creatives in the visual arts and design world. Through an intersectional use of cultural art and environmental design we curate spatial stories that reimagine the narrative of dispossessed communities. Our current practice relies on creating projects that exhibit art in unconventional environments for public audiences that go beyond the museum walls. Our projects are catalogued in our Open Walls Virtual Museum, a museum composed of endless room additions. We envision creating a platform that speaks to underrepresented artists by means of themed topics that challenge current issues in our societies. Open Walls is a grassroots organization. It is a direct response to the inequitable art practices and a vision for showcasing art for the future.

For more information, please visit www.open-walls.org or follow us on, Instagram [@openwalls](https://instagram.com/openwalls)

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