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***NUMU Shines a Spotlight on Local Residents' Eclectic
International Folk Art Collection***

A Call to Collect: Whimsy Around the World opens February 2020



LOS GATOS, CA — January 2020 —

New Museum Los Gatos (NUMU) is pleased to present *A Call to Collect: Whimsy Around the World*, an exhibition that celebrates and investigates the pursuit of collecting folk art, featuring prized pieces from the collection of Los Gatos residents Lee and Dr. Paul Quintana. The exhibition runs February 22 through July 5, 2020 in NUMU's Spotlight Gallery.

The Quintanas travel extensively as Paul provides pediatric medical services in underserved communities around the world, including Mexico, South America, Asia and the Pacific as well as West Africa and the Middle East. And after more than 40 years of traveling the globe, the Quintanas have developed a collection of hundreds of pieces, some of which are cleverly

repurposed or utilitarian objects and others which represent the material cultures of ancient, traditional and contemporary arts of each locale.

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Housed and lovingly curated in their home, the objects selected for exhibition at NUMU



represent not only the joy and beauty they bring to Lee and Paul but also for the many ways in which they conceptually intersect with each other. These objects have all been produced by hand by individuals, families and communities to fulfill a variety of purposes -- for utility, for display and adornment, for humor, education and connection or to assist in remembering or provisioning loved ones in the afterlife. Within the Quintanas home each item is an ever-present reminder of travels and moments with the people that have made them. Items from this globally relevant, international folk art collection have never been exhibited in public and each have unique stories to tell.

“Whimsy Around the World will introduce museum visitors to the global traditions of handcrafted art and artisanal skills that provide livelihoods

and creative fulfillment in their makers’ communities,” says exhibition curator, Allison Railo. “By sharing their collection with the public, the Quintanas also share their long history of meeting local artists and celebrating the spontaneous moments of appreciation for the unique and handmade.”

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Visitors to the exhibition will also glimpse the colorful world within the Quintana's home while learning about the role that material culture plays in developing values and creating meaning for diverse communities around the world.

A Call to Collect is a recurring exhibition program that celebrates the pursuit of collecting. These exhibitions present exceptional private collections of local residents. NUMU introduced the *Call to Collect* exhibition series in 2017 when it featured prized works of three highly regarded Los Gatos collectors.



About NUMU

New Museum Los Gatos (NUMU), formerly The Museums of Los Gatos founded in 1965, is a public non-profit art and history museum. NUMU's mission is to engage the community at the intersection of art, history and education through innovative, locally connected and globally relevant exhibitions, programs and experiences.

NUMU is open Wednesday 1pm to 5pm and Thursday through Sunday 11am to 5pm. Museum admission is \$10 general, \$6 military/seniors. Admission is free for NUMU members and visitors 18 years and under. NUMU is located at 106 E. Main Street, in the Los Gatos Civic Center Plaza. Visit: numulosgatos.org.

Images from the collection of Lee and Dr. Paul Quintana

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