



Ken Taylor Reynaga

A Mano

Curated by César García-Alvarez

July 27 - Aug. 26, 2023

Ken Taylor Reynaga's practice explores the condition of existing in two worlds. Born in Lynwood, Taylor Reynaga was raised in Bakersfield in California's San Joaquin Valley. Growing up in a community shaped by multiple generations of immigrants allowed him to embrace the histories, cultures, and traditions of two nations. His work is informed by that reality and pushes back against narratives that place stories like his in an in-between that is never American or Mexican enough.

Drawing from art history, popular culture, and his own biography, Taylor Reynaga creates works that are uninterested in the exactness of representation and instead visualize the subjective dimensions of the everyday. Taking familiar genres as a point of departure, Taylor Reynaga re-imagines depictions of natural and built environments, rural life, the home, leisurely activities, matriarchs, and the cowboy hero in ways that are both deeply personal and universal.

Scrawny male bodies wearing sports jerseys and cowboy hats are rendered holding roosters on bedsheets adorned with cartoon characters. Red mountains fill compositions traversed by black flowing rivers. Distorted sun-bathing nude cowboys are assembled from thickly layered marks of blue paint forging a monochrome that's difficult to categorize. Inspired by artistic movements like *Nueva Figuración* and *Nueva Presencia* that emerged in Mexico during the postwar period, Taylor Reynaga champions a kind of figuration that draws from both abstraction and representational forms. His informal use of line, color, and materials along with his unconventional palette allow him to show us a world that is patched together—remixed from influences that are American and Mexican at once. In a way, Taylor Reynaga's practice proposes a kind of critical regionalism that counters the placelessness often tied to discourses about being bicultural. His works speak to both specific circumstances embodied by people and broader stories that connect us with others.

The exhibition brings together over thirty works across painting, sculpture, and installation and is loosely organized around subjects Taylor Reynaga has engaged with over the last decade: landscapes, animals, portraiture, and domestic life. The exhibition comes at a moment when other artistic forms—like Mexican regional music—are being boldly re-imagined by younger generations to better reflect the intersectional nature of their identities. Nodding to artistic movements that have been overlooked, Taylor Reynaga is engaging in a similar exercise and in doing so is expanding how we understand the Latinx experience in the US.

Ken Taylor Reynaga: *A Mano*
CHECKLIST



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Yellow peacock, 2020
Oil on canvas
60h x 48w in
152.40h x 121.92w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 008, 2019
Ceramic
11h x 6w x 5d in
27.94h x 15.24w x 12.70d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Central Valley Oak Tree, 2018
Oil on canvas
36h x 48w in
91.44h x 121.92w cm
Framed: 37.50h x 49.50w x 2d in
95.25h x 125.73w x 5.08d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Un Baile Popular, 2022
Oil on canvas
95h x 79w x 1.50d in
241.30h x 200.66w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
The burning bush, 2020
Oil on canvas
84h x 72w x 1.50d in
213.36h x 182.88w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Cowboy and flowers, 2019
Oil and construction crayon on paper
40h x 26w in
101.60h x 66.04w cm
Framed: 43.25h x 29.38w x 2d in
109.86h x 74.61w x 5.08d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Ama, 2019
Oil on canvas
84h x 60w in
213.36h x 152.40w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Blue dude blue ocean, 2019
Oil on canvas
42h x 60w in
106.68h x 152.40w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Pooh and the Paletero, 2019
Oil on canvas
84h x 72w in
213.36h x 182.88w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
The Birth, 2023
Oil on canvas
14h x 18w x 1d in
35.56h x 45.72w x 2.54d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Cholo cowboy, 2020
Oil on canvas
70h x 56w in
177.80h x 142.24w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Moon's Light, 2023
Oil on linen
72h x 60w x 2d in
182.88h x 152.40w x 5.08d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Pink Hat, 2023
Oil on canvas
24h x 18w x 1.50d in
60.96h x 45.72w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Pinkies UP (self portrait), 2020
Oil on canvas
36h x 24w in
91.44h x 60.96w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Vaqueritos (night), 2020
Oil on canvas
9.75h x 19.75w in
24.77h x 50.17w cm
Framed: 11h x 21w x 1.50d in
27.94h x 53.34w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Old soul song, 2021
Oil on canvas
23.75h x 20w in
60.33h x 50.80w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Calla Lilly Tower, 2021
Oil on canvas
24h x 20w in



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Whats the hold up?, 2020
Oil on canvas
98h x 78w in
248.92h x 198.12w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Night Light, 2019
Oil on canvas
81h x 66w x 1.50d in
205.74h x 167.64w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 018, 2019
Ceramic
15.50h x 9w x 5d in
39.37h x 22.86w x 12.70d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 017, 2019
Ceramic
19h x 7w x 7d in
48.26h x 17.78w x 17.78d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Hemitite Mountain Range, 2021
Oil on Linen
84h x 72w in
213.36h x 182.88w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Blue Man's Heart, 2020
Oil on paper
9h x 12w in
22.86h x 30.48w cm
Framed: 13.63h x 11.38w x 1.50d in
34.61h x 28.89w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor
Reynaga
La Vaca, 2023
Oil on linen
79h x 96w x 2d in
200.66h x 243.84w x 5.08d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
El Burro, 2023
Oil on linen
79h x 96w x 2d in
200.66h x 243.84w x 5.08d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 015, 2019
Ceramic
14h x 7.50w x 5d in
35.56h x 19.05w x 12.70d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 014, 2019
Ceramic
19h x 7w x 5d in
48.26h x 17.78w x 12.70d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Stefan and Ken, 2020
Pen on paper
10.88h x 8.50w in
27.62h x 21.59w cm
Framed: 17.25h x 14.75w x 1.50d in
43.82h x 37.47w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Mango soda
Oil on linen
88h x 61w in
223.52h x 154.94w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Woman with Bottle, 2021
Oil on canvas
32h x 24w in
81.28h x 60.96w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Hematite Mountain (Onyx River), 2021
Oil on Linen
84h x 72w in
213.36h x 182.88w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Rancho Vida, 2023
Oil on canvas
16h x 18w in
40.64h x 45.72w cm
Framed: 17.13h x 19.13w x 1.50d in
43.50h x 48.58w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Pastel de tres leches, 2020
Oil on canvas
72h x 84w x 1.50d in
182.88h x 213.36w x 3.81d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Cyclops Vaquero, 2021
Oil on canvas
23.75h x 20w in
60.33h x 50.80w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 010, 2019
Ceramic
18.50h x 6w x 5.50d in
46.99h x 15.24w x 13.97d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Ernie's Mesquite and Beer, 2018
Oil on canvas
12h x 16w in
30.48h x 40.64w cm
Framed: 13.50h x 17.50w x 2d in
34.29h x 44.45w x 5.08d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Crossed Creature eating shroom, 2021
Oil on canvas
24h x 20w in
60.96h x 50.80w cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 006, 2019
Ceramic
17h x 6.50w x 4.50d in
43.18h x 16.51w x 11.43d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 30, 2019
Ceramic
14.50h x 6w x 4.50d in
36.83h x 15.24w x 11.43d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Bird 38, 2019
Ceramic
13.50h x 7w x 6d in
34.29h x 17.78w x 15.24d cm



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Morning Eyes on Tricycle, 2021
Oil on canvas
24h x 20w in
Framed: 31.5h x 28 x 2.5 in



Ken Taylor Reynaga
Pink Ride, 2019
Oil on canvas
16h x 21w x 1d inches