



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blaffer Art Museum Presents Adriana Corral: *AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES*

August 22, 2026–December 5, 2026

HOUSTON, TX — August 10, 2026 — Blaffer Art Museum at the University of Houston presents *AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES*, a solo exhibition by San Antonio–based artist Adriana Corral. Bringing together sculpture, glass, oyster shells, copper, sand, Plexiglas, and video, the exhibition considers the fragile boundaries between protection and vulnerability, resilience and loss.

Taking its title from the hymn *Amazing Grace*, *AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES* turns toward the promises embedded in systems of refuge—legal systems, civic institutions, and faith traditions—and the failures that complicate those promises. Corral's work inhabits the space between sanctuary and precarity, asking what it means to seek protection within structures that can themselves be unstable, exclusionary, or unable to protect.

At the center of the exhibition is a new sculpture commissioned and produced by Blaffer Art Museum. Taking the dimensions of an inverted burial plot, the work functions simultaneously as sanctuary and memorial. Its form collapses spaces of mourning and protection into a single structure, making the distinction between shelter and burial, refuge and loss, difficult to sustain.

The work emerges from Corral's extended research in coastal Louisiana, where she worked with members of the Point au Chien Indian Tribe while responding to the region's rapidly changing ecologies. A newly created film, made in collaboration with Berlin-based artist Janaye Brown, traces the intertwined crises of environmental degradation and human rights. Land loss, rising waters, and ecological collapse become not simply environmental conditions, but questions of sovereignty, displacement, and civic responsibility—conditions that disproportionately affect Indigenous communities and others shaped by histories of displacement and civic neglect.

Corral approaches the landscape as an archive. Across the exhibition, materials carry the physical and historical weight of the Gulf Coast: oyster shells evoke both ecology and industry; copper and glass suggest durability and fragility; sand registers the instability of land itself. These materials are assembled into installations in which environmental transformation and cultural resilience become inseparable.

The result is an exhibition concerned less with catastrophe than with what persists within it. Corral's work asks how histories of care and loss are held in place, how memory survives environmental transformation, and what forms of endurance become possible when the structures meant to protect us fail.

“Corral understands material as a form of evidence,” said Laura Augusta, Jane Dale Owen Director & Chief Curator of Blaffer Art Museum. “The oyster shell, the glass, the copper, the sand—each carries a physical history, but none is fixed in meaning. In the inverted burial plot, she takes a familiar form of mourning and turns it inside out, making the grave architectural, spatial, and potentially protective. Throughout the exhibition, materials seem to hover between states: solid and fragile, shelter and ruin, monument and trace. That instability is where the work comes alive.”

Presented in Houston, *AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES* resonates with the Gulf Coast's own changing landscapes and the complicated histories that have shaped them. At Blaffer, Corral's research-based practice brings questions of ecology, human rights, and cultural memory into the context of a public research university and a city whose deep relationship to the Gulf is both geographic and deeply embedded in daily life.

AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES continues Blaffer Art Museum's commitment to contemporary artists whose practices use material and research to complicate the histories we inherit and the systems through which we understand the present.

The exhibition will be accompanied by public programs developed in relation to Corral's practice and the exhibition's themes of ecology, human rights, faith, memory, and endurance. For information about upcoming events, visit <https://blafferartmuseum.org/upcoming-events/>

Admission to Blaffer Art Museum is always free.

About Adriana Corral

Adriana Corral is a San Antonio–based artist whose research-driven practice investigates histories of displacement, loss, human rights, and environmental transformation. She received her MFA from The University of Texas at Austin and her BFA from The University of Texas at El Paso. Her exhibitions include major projects at MASS MoCA, the New Orleans Museum of Art, Prospect.5, and Ballroom Marfa, as well as presentations at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and Lehmann Maupin Gallery.

About Blaffer Art Museum

Blaffer Art Museum at the University of Houston is an artist-centered and research-driven contemporary art museum, centering experimentation, dialogue, and learning alongside contemporary artists from around the world. Founded in 1973, Blaffer connects artists, students, scholars, and communities through exhibitions, commissions, publications, and public programs. As Houston's university art museum, Blaffer creates a space where contemporary art intersects with research, experimentation, and public life.

Blaffer Art Museum is located at 4173 Elgin Street on the University of Houston campus. Admission is always free.

Event Details:

What: Opening Reception *AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES*

When: Saturday, August 22, 2026 at 1pm-4pm

Where: Blaffer Art Museum

About the University of Houston

The University of Houston is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university recognized with a Phi Beta Kappa chapter for excellence in undergraduate education. UH serves the globally competitive Houston and Gulf Coast Region by providing world-class faculty, experiential learning and strategic industry partnerships. Located in the nation's fourth-largest city and one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse regions in the country, UH is a federally designated Hispanic- and Asian-American-Serving institution with enrollment of more than 47,000 students.

About Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts

The University of Houston's Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts is a premier institution for education, scholarship, and innovation in the arts, where every day we are cultivating the next generation of creative professionals and unlocking the potential of the arts to impact society and change the world. Our students are forging new frontiers and advancing the arts through academic excellence, innovative programming, and—together with our world-renowned faculty—ascending to the highest level of contemporary professional practice. Houston is a first choice for the arts. Houston is a city of culture and diversity, a quintessential arts destination, and a gateway to the international arts community. Steeped in the richness of diverse cultures, Houston and its engaging community network provide a citywide laboratory for research, education, and practice in the performing and visual arts.

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