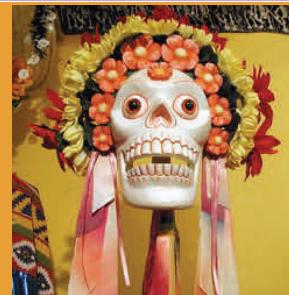


Sugar

August 18—De



Zarco Guerrero



Melody

Día *de los Muertos*, or Day of the Dead, is a vibrant tradition in Latin America, especially Mexico. Many customs of this holiday, such as the use of sugar skulls, as well as Catholicism brought to the region by Spanish colonists, have become such a popular image that's its influence can be seen in commercial products across Mexico and the Southwestern United States. Offerings, or *ofrendas*, were placed on a gravestone or altar to help the deceased soul find their way back to the living. Families would celebrate the holiday with family and friends. Temples and museums often host exhibitions for sharing their own connections to Día de los Muertos. The tradition continues to flourish as a much loved cultural tradition.

Zarco Guerrero, Mesa

Zarco Guerrero has been working as a professional artist for over 20 years. He is a master mask-maker, but he is also a sculptor, muralist, painter,

Skulls

December 13, 2017



Smith



Marco Albarran

nt and colorful holiday celebrated throughout Latin
s holiday have historical ties to the ancient Aztecs
spanish missionaries. One decoration, the sugar
not uncommon to see them reproduced in
hwest United States. Originally, these sugary
o guide that person's soul back to earth to
mpe Galleries thanks the participating artists in the
Día de los Muertos and their hopes to see it
ition.

ast for more than forty years. He is best known as a
erformance artist, poet, musician and community

activist. His travels to places such as Mexico, Brazil, and India have inspired his work. He has studied indigenous art forms and traditional mask-making techniques. He uses his art to raise awareness about social issues and the environment. He has worked with various organizations to promote social change.

www.zarkmask.com

Melody Smith, Chandler

Before moving here 11 years ago, Smith earned her degree in art education from California State University at Northridge and worked as an art director in the fashion industry in Los Angeles. Since moving to Los Angeles, teaching art and traveling has opened her eyes to different cultures and traditions. Over the years, she has been especially drawn to Mexican folk art, colors, pop art inspired graphics, urban graffiti and Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos) imagery.

Marco Albarran, Tempe

Albarran was born in Mexico and later grew up in the United States. He studied liberal arts and political science with an emphasis in history at Arizona State University. Some of Albarran's earliest childhood memories were passed on to him from his grandmother, including stories of her life as a community activist. Albarran is inspired by the rich history and culture of Mexico and other countries, and he often incorporates traditional motifs and symbols into his artwork.

zil, Japan, China, to name a few, enabled him to making practices. Guerrero reaches out to the rams for inner city youth, correctional institutions dicated his artistic endeavors to create positive

er Bachelor of Arts from California State University e design realm. Smith says that living in Los er eyes and senses to a wealth of diverse cultures lly attracted to design influences that feature vivid nd tattoos and especially, Mexican folk art and Día

Yuma. He received his Bachelor's degree in s in Latin American Studies from Arizona State memories include stories and cultural traditions g Día de los Muertos. Today, as an artist, curator he holiday and thinks of it as both a cultural and