

UNC—Chapel Hill and Wake Forest University to Debate at North Carolina Museum of Art
Debate will raise issues about art and culture addressed in upcoming exhibition

Raleigh, N.C.—On March 29, the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) will host a debate between the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Wake Forest University Debate Team. The debaters will respond to the statement “The objectification of culture into art is damaging to that culture” and will address issues also highlighted in the Museum’s spring exhibition [Estampas de la raza: Prints for the People/The Romo Collection](#).



At the conclusion of the debate, audience members will be invited to ask the students questions, offer commentary, and join in a conversation about the topics and perspectives introduced during the arguments.

“The debate explores issues of tradition and identity in works of art and will be a great lead-in to *Estampas de la raza*, which addresses these topics as pertaining to Hispanic culture in particular,” says Jennifer Dasal, the NCMA’s associate curator of contemporary art and the curator of *Estampas de la raza*. “We are hoping for lively, thought-provoking audience involvement to start a discussion about these extremely important issues.”

This is the third college debate that the Museum has held in conjunction with a special exhibition and the first to feature two universities taking opposing sides of an argument.

Deborah Reid Murphy, the Museum’s coordinator of adult programs, says college debates are valuable for both the students and the Museum. “This is a special opportunity for college students to take center stage—literally—and discuss issues addressed by these significant works of art,” Reid Murphy explains. “The debate allows us to start a multigenerational conversation between the students and members of the audience that is sure to uncover many different viewpoints and stories.”

Debate: Resolved: The objectification of culture into art is damaging to that culture

Saturday, March 29, 2 pm
East Building, Museum Auditorium
Free; ticket from Box Office required

Photo caption:

Lawrence Colación, *Veterano*, 1995, screen print, 37 5/8 x 25 3/4 in., Collection of the McNay Art Museum, Gift of Harriett and Ricardo Romo, 2009.43, © 2013 Lawrence Colación

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About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art’s permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum’s collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum opened West Building, home to the permanent collection, in 2010. The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Pat McCrory, governor, and an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, Susan Kluttz, secretary.