

## Marcus Zúñiga

## mutual gravity with angular momentum

Sunday February 16, 11AM - 2:30PM

Garden is pleased to present *mutual gravity with angular momentum*, an outdoor project by Marcus Zúñiga. On Sunday February 16 from 11AM-2:30PM, Zúñiga will install a site-specific sun installation that activates an experiential registration of time through the play of light and shadow. The installation is animated by the mutual presence of sunlight and the viewer as bodies in relation to the Earth.

Astronomers recently announced the first ever confirmed detection of gravitational waves, ripples in spacetime. This event began from the collision of two dense neutron stars 130 million light years away. Analysis of this merger proved the origin of precious metals such as gold, produced through nucleosynthesis in the violent collisions of stars.

Since ancient times, gold has connected the earthly realm to the heavens. It is an essential material to the history of the Americas, playing a role in both indigenous cultures and colonization. Here, Zúñiga invokes Aztec mythology surrounding gold and the sun through an installation activated by the mutual presences of sunlight, the viewer, and the Earth. The work locates us both locally and cosmically, bodies in motion spinning around each other.

Interdisciplinary artist **Marcus Zúñiga** (b. 1990, Silver City, New Mexico) creates time-based works, most recently using direct sunlight in place of video projection to generate temporal registrations. The primary theme of the work is locating place within the universe, and by extension contemplating local and cosmic scales of place simultaneously. Informed by research from a combination of sources, including astronomy, digital aesthetics, and Xicanismo, his works interact with their surroundings to embody specified spatiotemporal relationships between human and cosmic bodies. Zúñiga received his BFA from the University of New Mexico in 2013 and MFA from Art Center College of Design in 2019. Recent exhibitions include curated group shows at the Main Museum, Los Angeles, the Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, and the Center for Contemporary Arts, Santa Fe.