Crafting Tradition: Oaxacan Wood Carvings

Wood carvings from the Mexican state of Oaxaca are part of a worldwide trade in ethnic and tourist arts. This exhibition shows how this trade can result in new artistic forms that straddle the border between popular craft and fine art. Although the inspirations for these pieces are often rooted in the past, they are also influenced by contemporary change in Mexico and designed to suit the artistic taste of buyers in the United States and Europe.

This exhibition was curated by Professor Emeritus Michael Chibnik in 2005 (Anthropology, University of Iowa) and was adapted for travel by the UIMA. This exhibition is funded in part by the John K. and Luise V. Hanson Foundation and is organized by Legacies for Iowa: A University of Iowa Museum of Art Collections-Sharing Project, Supported by the Matthew Bucksbaum Family.
**Exhibition checklist**

1. Manuel Jiménez and sons Angélico and Isaías (Arrazola)  
   *Rabbit Nahual*, 2005  
   Cedar, acrylic paint, synthetic fiber  
   29 1/2 x 32 x 10 in. (74.93 x 81.28 x 25.4 cm)  
   Museum purchase, 2015.103

2. Isidoro Cruz and Juan Jiménez (San Martín Tilcajete)  
   *Imaginative Mask (multiple faces)*, 2005  
   Tzompantle (Erythrina corolloides)  
   19 x 16 in. (50.8 x 40.64 cm)  
   Museum purchase, 192.2005

3. Porfirio Sosa and Sofía Ojeda (San Martín Tilcajete)  
   *Alebrije (inspired by papier-mâché figures of Linares family of Mexico City)*, 2005  
   Copal, acrylic paint  
   20 x 26 in. (55.88 x 50.8 x 66.04 cm)  
   Museum purchase, 2015.112a–s

4. Workshop of Jacobo Ángeles (San Martín Tilcajete)  
   *Armadillo*, 2005  
   Copal, acrylic paint  
   11 1/2 x 18 1/2 x 12 1/2 in. (29.21 x 46.99 x 31.75 cm)  
   Museum purchase, 2015.104

5. Zeny Fuentes (San Martín Tilcajete)  
   *Cat*, 2005  
   Copal, acrylic paint  
   18 x 19 x 8 in. (45.72 x 48.26 x 20.32 cm)  
   Museum purchase, 2015.101

6. Margarito Melchor Fuentes (San Martín Tilcajete)  
   *Cat*, 2005  
   Copal, acrylic paint  
   9 1/2 x 19 x 12 in. (24.13 x 48.26 x 30.48 cm)  
   Museum purchase, 2015.122a–b

---

**Note:** This record was created from historic documentation that does not necessarily reflect the University of Iowa Museum of Art’s complete or current knowledge about the object. Review and updating of such records is ongoing.

---

University of Iowa Museum of Art

January 14, 2016
7. Justo Xuaná, Feliza Fabián, and Silvia Xuaná (San Martín Tilcajete)
*Band of Animal Musicians*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint
6 1/2 x 10 x 22 in. (16.51 x 25.4 x 55.88 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.123a–u

8. Gabino Reyes (La Unión Tejalapan)
*Dragons*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint
4 x 13 x 11 in. (10.16 x 33.02 x 27.94 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.116a–g

9. Moisés Jiménez (Arrazola)
*Black Bear*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint
168 x 16 x 18 in. (38.1 x 40.64 x 45.72 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.99

10. Moisés Jiménez (Arrazola)
*Opossum Family*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint
11 x 16 x 6 1/2 in. (27.94 x 40.64 x 16.51 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.113a–d

11. Moisés Jiménez (Arrazola)
*Nutria*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint
13 1/2 x 8 x 10 in. (34.29 x 20.32 x 25.4 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.96

12. Rocio Ramírez and Germán Ramírez (Arrazola)
*Iguana*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint
7 x 19 x 20 in. (17.78 x 48.26 x 50.8 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.98

*Note:* This record was created from historic documentation that does not necessarily reflect the University of Iowa Museum of Art’s complete or current knowledge about the object. Review and updating of such records is ongoing.
13. Martín Melchor and Hermelinda Ortega (San Martín Tilcajete)
*Bicycle with Dalmatian Rider*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint
26 1/2 x 26 1/2 x 11 1/2 in. (67.31 x 67.31 x 29.21 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.118a–b

14. Martín Melchor and Hermelinda Ortega (San Martín Tilcajete)
*Bicycle-taxi with Giraffe Driver and Passengers*, 2005
Pine, copal, acrylic paint
11 1/2 x 13 x 9 in. (29.21 x 33.02 x 22.86 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.108a–f

15. Jesús Sosa Calvo, Juanita Ortega, and other family members
(San Martín Tilcajete)
*Seven Regions of Oaxaca*, 2005
Copal and acrylic paint
69 x 15 x 15 inches (approximately)
Museum purchase, 2015.106

16. Alberto Jiménez (San Martín Tilcajete)
*Angel*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint
24 x 22 x 25 in. (60.96 x 55.88 x 63.5 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.109a–t

17. Margarito Melchor Santiago (San Martín Tilcajete)
*Skeleton with Guitar*, 2005
Copal, acrylic paint, synthetic fiber
38 x 10 x 19 in. (96.52 x 25.4 x 48.26 cm)
Museum purchase, 2015.117a–b

*Note:* This record was created from historic documentation that does not necessarily reflect the University of Iowa Museum of Art’s complete or current knowledge about the object. Review and updating of such records is ongoing.
18. Agustín Cruz Tinoco (San Agustín de las Juntas)  
*Saint* (San Martín de Porres), 2005  
Copal with pine base, acrylic paint  
19 3/4 x 9 1/4 x 7 1/2 in. (50.17 x 23.5 x 19.05 cm)  
Museum purchase, 2015.97

19. Gabino Reyes (La Unión Tejalapan)  
*Shepherd with Animals*, 2005  
Copal, jacaranda, pine, synthetic grass and acrylic paint  
10 x 12 x 10 1/2 in. (25.4 x 30.48 x 26.67 cm)  
Museum purchase, 2015.111a–l

20. Maximino Santiago and Yolanda López (La Unión Tejalapan)  
*Graveyard*, 2005  
Pine, copal, acrylic paint  
10 3/4 x 16 x 15 3/4 in. (27.31 x 40.64 x 40.01 cm)  
Museum purchase, 2015.102

21. Maximino Santiago and Yolanda López (La Unión Tejalapan)  
*Church and Wedding Party*, 2005  
Pine, copal, acrylic paint  
13 1/2 x 16 x 8 1/2 in. (34.29 x 40.64 x 21.59 cm)  
Museum purchase, 2015.110a–m

22. Agustín Cruz Tinoco (San Agustín de las Juntas)  
*Carriage with Soldiers*, 2005  
Pine, copal, leather, acrylic paint, light bulb, electrical cord  
11 1/2 x 23 1/2 x 7 1/2 in. (29.21 x 59.69 x 19.05 cm)  
Museum purchase, 2015.100

23. Miguel Santiago (Arrazola)  
*The Royal Couple*, 2005  
Copal, acrylic paint  
18 x 11 x 8 in. (45.72 x 27.94 x 20.32 cm)  
Museum purchase, 2015.114a–b

*Note:* This record was created from historic documentation that does not necessarily reflect the University of Iowa Museum of Art’s complete or current knowledge about the object. Review and updating of such records is ongoing.