JAIME GUERRERO

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Visuals available upon request

Glass sculptor Jaime Guerrero highlights refugee crisis as part of *Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA*

Life-sized blown glass children shown at the Craft in America Center offer a look into refugee struggles

April 30, 2017, Los Angeles, CA — Glass artist and sculptor <u>Jaime Guerrero</u> offers a look into the vulnerability of refugee children with his upcoming solo exhibition at the **Craft in America Center** as part of <u>Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA</u>. The exhibition titled <u>Mano Made: New Expression in Craft by Jaime Guerrero</u> runs August 26 thru October 7, 2017. The opening reception will be held Saturday, August 26th from 5-7pm. Guerrero is a featured Los Angeles based artist selected to participate in The Getty initiative that highlights Latin American and Latino art in dialogue with Los Angeles.

Guerrero's solo exhibition centers on a young boy batting at a piñata, which serves to represent the hopes, dreams, and anticipation of refugee children crossing the US border each day. The life-sized blown and sculpted glass youth illustrate those innocent souls being detained and the struggles the young immigrants face in search for a better life.

As part of the exhibition, Guerrero will offer an artist talk at the Craft in America Center on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at 4pm. Curator/Center Director Emily Zaiden notes: "Jaime takes glass into new realms with his remarkable ability to imbue his medium with palpable emotion and spirit." Guerrero will also be part of a panel discussion at the Los Angeles Central Public Library on October 22, 2017. He hopes with this exhibition to humanize the experience of these youth and the true struggles they face in their quest.

In addition to the solo exhibition, Guerrero will be featured in Craft in America's 2017 PBS episode titled <u>BORDERS</u>, which takes a look at the interrelated craft practices of Mexico and the United States. The episode highlights Guerrero's exhibit at the Craft in America Center along with a studio tour, look into his family and the <u>filming</u> of him creating a life-sized figure out of glass at Corning Museum of Glass.

Guerrero was born in 1974 in Los Angeles, California. He began his career at California College of Arts and Crafts in 1994. Although Guerrero mostly focuses on glass sculpture he considers himself a mix media artist. Guerrero has studied with Masters Checco Ongaro, Pino Signoretto, and Ben Moore. He attended Pilchuck School of Glass and was nominated for the Corning Award. Guerrero was a featured artist in the *Mastercraft* show at Gumps in San Francisco for five consecutive years. He received two Saxe Fellowship Awards (2006/2012) and the People's Choice Award (2012) from the Bay Area Glass Institute for his work "Charros y Sus Caballos". This work was later purchased by the Oakland Museum of California for its permanent collection. Guerrero has been featured in several publications, including Glass Quarterly (Spring 2014). He uses glass, a nearly untouched medium in the fine art world to look at ancient cultures

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and their art making processes to challenge contemporary modalities. Guerrero volunteers his time and offers free glass blowing classes to youth in underserved communities as a way to give back. www.guerreroglass.com

The Craft in America Center in Los Angles highlights traditional and contemporary craft through artist talks, workshops, exhibits, and concerts. The Peabody Award winning series CRAFT IN AMERICA on PBS explores the creativity and reach of America's artisans, blending history with practice and exploring issues of identity, ritual, philosophy and creative expression. www.craftinamerica.org

Exhibition Opening: Saturday, August 26, 2017, 5pm - 7pm

Craft in America Center Location: 8415 W. Third St, Los Angeles CA 90048

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 12pm - 6pm

Admission: Free

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