

Speaker Bios

Tanya Meléndez-Escalante is senior curator of education and public programs at The Museum at FIT. She curated the exhibitions *Eterno Femenino* (2017) in León, Mexico and *Julia y Renata: Moda y Transformación* (2020) at the Museo de Arte de Zapopan in Zapopan, Mexico. She will co-curate the 2023 exhibition *¡Moda Hoy! Latin American and Latinx Fashion* at The Museum at FIT. Meléndez-Escalante holds an MA in Museum Studies: Fashion and Textile History from the Fashion Institute of Technology and a BA in humanities from the Universidad de las Américas Puebla.

Oskar Metsavaht is a multidisciplinary creator recognized as a visionary for his role as an environmentalist and leader of the sustainability movement. He is the founder and style director of Osklen, one of Brazil's most iconic fashion brands. He is also the founder and president of Instituto-E, which acts as a hub for the application of the concepts and practices of sustainable design thinking, which promotes sustainable human development through socio-environmental projects.

Hanayrá Negreiros is a Brazilian scholar of Black ways of dressing. She has a master's degree in Science of Religion from the Pontifical University of São Paulo and is currently assistant curator of fashion at the São Paulo Museum of Art. She is also a columnist for *ELLE Brasil*.

Bárbara Sánchez-Kane is a Mexican fashion designer and artist who resists traditional notions of Mexican machismo. Whether it's her unisex fashion label, Sánchez-Kane, or her installation, painting, performance, poetry, and sculpture practices, all of her works question hegemonic masculinity, the social construction of gender and sexual identity, and the ways each presents itself in daily life.

About The Museum at FIT

For information about visiting The Museum at FIT; its membership group, the Couture Council; and tours and donations, please visit fitnyc.edu/museum.

The symposium is free and open to the public. However, reservations are required. Seats are first-come first-served with an RSVP. The Museum at FIT and the college reserve the right to cancel a program at any time. If you require accommodations due to a disability, please contact museuminfo@fitnyc.edu to discuss your needs. Please provide enough advance notice so that it is possible to honor your request adequately.

To Register

fitnyc.edu/museum
museuminfo@fitnyc.edu



The Katie Murphy Amphitheatre is in the Fred P. Pomerantz Art and Design Center on the northwest corner of Seventh Avenue and West 27th Street in New York City.

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The Museum at FIT

Image: Amantes Encontrados for *Vogue Italia*. Photographer: Paola Vivas. Fashion: Sánchez-Kane. Styling: Chino Castilla. Models: Emiliano and Samuel for Guerx Agency MX



¡Moda Hoy! Latin American and Latinx Fashion Symposium

Friday, October 7, 2022
Katie Murphy Amphitheatre

The Museum at FIT

Schedule

10 am	Welcoming remarks, Dr. Joyce F. Brown , President of FIT
10:05 am	Introduction, Dr. Valerie Steele , Director and Chief Curator of The Museum at FIT
10:10 am	Tanya Meléndez-Escalante and Melissa Marra-Alvarez in conversation about “¡Moda Hoy! Latin American and Latinx Fashion”
10:30 am	Hanayrá Negreiros and Laura Beltrán-Rubio in conversation about “Identity and Fashion in Latin America”
10 min. break	
11:10 am	William Cruz Bermeo , “Latin America on the Global Fashion Scene During the Twentieth Century”
11:40 am	Brenda Equihua and Bárbara Sánchez-Kane in conversation with Tanya Meléndez-Escalante about “Popular Culture and Fashion”
12:10–2 pm Lunch	
2 pm	Aída Hurtado and Willy Chavarria in conversation with Tanya Meléndez-Escalante about “Are We Latinx? Constructs of Inclusivity”
2:30 pm	Melissa Marra-Alvarez in conversation with Oskar Metsavaht about “Sustainability and Fashion”
10 min. break	
3:10 pm	José Blanco and Alexis Carreño in conversation about “Gender and Fashion”
3:40 pm	Ana Elena Mallet , “Latin American Elegance: An Intercultural Dialogue”
4:10 pm	Q&A and discussion session with audience and speakers

Speaker Bios

Laura Beltrán-Rubio specializes in the history of art and fashion in the early modern Spanish world. She is a doctoral candidate at the College of William and Mary and received her MA in fashion studies from Parsons School of Design. Her dissertation explores the adoption and adaptation of European fashions, their fusion with Indigenous elements of dress, and their representation in the visual arts of the viceroyalty of New Granada.

José Blanco F. is originally from Costa Rica. He is professor of fashion at Dominican University. His research focuses on dress and popular culture in the second half of the twentieth century, with an emphasis on male fashion. He is also interested in fashion and visual culture in Latin America.

Dr. Alexis Carreño is associate professor in the Art Department at Universidad de Chile. He holds a PhD in Art History and Criticism from the Stony Brook University, and a Master of Fine Arts from the Universidad de Chile. A Fulbright scholar from 2009 to 2013, Dr. Carreño works at the intersection of art, fashion, and masculinities. In 2014 he curated a show on fashion and art at the American Folk Art Museum in New York and an exhibition on Chilean men’s fashion at Centro Cultural de España in Santiago, Chile, in 2018.

Willy Chavarria was born in Fresno, California. With a focus on art and commerce, he studied graphic design at the Academy of the Arts and eventually found his home in the creation of fashion. There has always been a sensitive and cinematic approach to his collections, beginning with his label’s launch in 2015. Chavarria takes literal content from his own upbringing in both the agricultural fields and the housing projects of the San Joaquin Valley and combines it with a high fashion sensibility and love for luxury.

William Cruz Bermeo is a fashion and dress history professor in the Clothing Design Program at Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, in Medellín, Colombia. Cruz Bermeo is considered a local authority in the field of fashion studies, especially in Colombian fashion history. He has authored multiple books and has presented his research in numerous articles as well as in national and international lectures.

Brenda Equihua studied Fashion Design at Parsons School of Design, The New School. Founded in 2016, her eponymous brand, Equihua, is a forward-thinking Latinx luxury brand born out of folklore and refined artistry.

Aída Hurtado is the Luis Leal Endowed Chair in the Department of Chicana and Chicano studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is co-editor of *MeXicana Fashions: Politics, Self-Adornment, and Identity Construction*.

Ana Elena Mallet is a Mexico City-based curator specializing in modern and contemporary fashion and design. She is currently a Distinguished Teacher at the School of Architecture, Art and Design of the Tecnológico de Monterrey. She has curated numerous exhibitions including *El arte de la indumentaria y la moda* at Fomento Cultural Banamex (2016).

Melissa Marra-Alvarez is curator of education and research at The Museum at FIT. She curated the exhibitions, *Minimalism/Maximalism* (MFIT, 2019) and *Force of Nature* (MFIT, 2017) and co-curated *Fashion & Politics* (MFIT, 2009). Marra-Alvarez is co-curating the 2023 Museum at FIT exhibition *¡Moda Hoy! Latin American and Latinx Fashion*. Marra-Alvarez holds an MA in Museum Studies: Fashion and Textile History from the Fashion Institute of Technology and a BA in English from University at Buffalo.