

Wednesday, March 17, 4pm ET

IMAGINATION IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC: STORIES BY LATINX CREATIVES

“Conversations Among X”, an online panel series produced by HITN, provides a “safe space” for Latinx creatives during the pandemic quarantine. The first panel- which debuted on March 17- was hosted by Lorena Russi, Columbian, a comedian, educator, and filmmaker. The live show features Latinx panelists speaking about their experiences as well as providing insights on their creative disciplines. “Conversations Among X” is a part of Tu Cuentas Cine Youth Fest, a virtual film festival slated to launch during Hispanic Heritage Month this year that hands Latinx voices the mic.

Kicking off the first panel with “Imagination in the Time of Pandemic: Stories By LatinX Creatives”, our first episode focused on the power of storytelling in film. We hit the ground running with our star-studded panel; and got up close and personal with the likes of Ivelisse Diaz, who founded her own Bomba dance school in Chicago “La Escuelita Bombera de Corazón”, Carmen Febo-San Miguel: Executive Director of the Taller Puertorriqueño in Philadelphia and sits on the City of Philadelphia Art Commission. She recently opened a completely new facility that she and her team raised \$12 million dollars for! Chris Yong-Garcia, who owns his own graphic design agency in New York and also started a Latino food blog to change the perception of immigrants in America, and Kristian Mercado Figueroa: an up and coming Puerto Rican filmmaker who has worked with celebrities like Billie Eilish, Bad Bunny, and Hannibal Buress.

Wednesday, April 7, 4pm ET

EVOLVING VISIONS OF THE FUTURE: FROM IMAGINATION TO ART

Our second livestream titled: Evolving Visions of the Future: How Do We Turn What We Imagine Into Art was a success! Did you miss it? Let's catch you up. This episode was moderated by Jessie Fuentes, an activist from Chicago who led our conversation about the different avenues of art. Up first: Vico Ortiz, a non-binary actor who has appeared in shows like Transparent on Amazon or on the award-winning show Vida. Afterwards, we were introduced to Melissa DuPrey who is an actress/comedian from Chicago. Didn't get enough of her on our show, you can catch her on Grey's Anatomy! Nydila Castillo is third on our list of panelists, she's my personal favorite because she tells stories through her food! And lastly, Richard “Tiago” Santiago is an artist from Puerto Rico whose best stories are told through paint and a canvas.

Wednesday, April 28, 4pm ET

ADDRESSING LATINX INVISIBILITY: A DISCUSSION FROM THE TRENCHES

The third installment of our live show titled “Addressing Latinx Invisibility: A Discussion from the Trenches.” Our panelists shared their experiences and how the feeling of invisibility has affected their work. Our star-studded panel was blessed with the likes of Adrian Roman, who is a visual artist that brings forth a visual exploration of his “Nuyorican” background, Dr. Raquel Ortiz: an award-winning children's book writer who writes about identity and culture, Rhina Valentin is the receiver of the 2020 All-Inclusive Change Maker Award and was named Bronx 25 Most Influential Women Of the Year. Our last panelist was Waldo Cabrera, a two time Emmy Award-Winning Journalist with over 30 years of experience in the industry. Any Pokèmon fans? Well, thank Waldo for bringing it to the United States! He was given his own show, which ran for eight years; his news show focused on outstanding members of the community.

Wednesday, May 19, 4pm ET

GREAT STORIES IN ANOTHER GENRE: STORYTELLING THROUGH MURALS

Our fourth installment of our Livestream “Conversations Among X,” “Great Stories in Another Genre: Storytelling Through Murals,” gave us a master class on art and storytelling. No one can paint a better picture than our panelists! Jesse Fuentes, an activist and educator who impacts Chicago’s political scene, led the conversation with our talented muralists. We sat down with legends like Betsy Casanas: founder of the Semilla Arts Initiative and Director of A Seed on Diamond Gallery, Osvaldo Budet: a Puerto Rican artist whose work explores the physical and political dimensions of colonization, Christian Roldan: who uses his art for good by solidifying the culture of his community and challenges the indoctrination by hegemonic discourse, and Sam Kirk: a multidisciplinary artist who focuses on a call to celebrate differences and enact change—missed our livestreams?