

QUINT

Quint Gallery

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New Permanent Art Installation at US-Mexico Border

Quint Gallery is pleased to announce a new public art installation by Ryan McGinness. The site-specific permanent artwork is located at the US-Mexico border in San Diego at the San Ysidro Port of Entry, the world's largest land port between two countries. Commissioned under the Obama administration by the US General Services Administration (GSA), the project took 5 years to complete.

Comprised of 50 drawings in McGinness' signature iconic style, the installation spans 10 by 840 feet and wraps around the top of the employee parking building—a contemporary twist on the ancient Mexican frieze. The symbols are a studied celebration of the rich culture and history of the local area on both sides of the border. Some of the contemporary hieroglyphs celebrate the indigenous inhabitants of San Ysidro while others identify local landmarks. The symbols also document important historical cultural movements and moments such as Cesar Chavez's United Farm Workers, the chicano movement's Brown Berets, and the Border Angels humanitarian organization.

The title, "Datum," refers to data or pieces of information from which inferences may be drawn. And, in Latin, it means "something given." McGinness' gift to the local community comes in the form of his 50 symbols. Each requires interpretation, but for insight to the artist's intentions, a PDF decoder can be found on McGinness' web site at ryanmcginness.com. To view a short video of the work, please click on the adjacent image



For more information about this project and Ryan McGinness, please contact Quint Gallery: info@quintgallery.com

In 1963, President John F. Kennedy's ad hoc Committee for Federal Architecture recommended that "fine art should be incorporated in the designs of federal buildings with emphasis on the work of living American artists." In the years since, the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has closely followed the committee's recommendation and developed a robust Art in Architecture (AiA) program aimed at enhancing the civic meaning of federal architecture through the works of celebrated American artists.