



Julio Cesar Morales, *We are the Dead #4*
Digital type C print
16 x 20 in (40.5 x 51 cm)
2013

MEDIA ALERT:

**Julio Cesar Morales: *Forever Now!*
May 2– June 29, 2013**

Gallery Reception: Thursday, May 2, 2013, 6-8 pm
Gallery Wendi Norris
161 Jessie Street (at New Montgomery), San Francisco, CA 94105

SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

Gallery Wendi Norris is pleased to announce *Forever Now!* an exhibition of interdisciplinary works by conceptual artist, Julio César Morales, which will examine ideas of boundaries, barriers and limits through installations, sculptures, works on paper, photography, and video.

Investigating the productive friction that occurs in trans-cultural territories, the works in *Forever Now!* are based on a story from the 1990's, in which two brothers crossed the Sonora Desert from Mexico into Arizona. Lost and out of water, they are left only with two bottles of tequila meant as a gift for relatives waiting in the US. The brothers later decided to split up and find help, and one made it to a Circle K convenience store, while the other was later found dead with an empty bottle of tequila.

Morales' experimental video reenactment tells this story through the eyes of the surviving brother, with video footage shot in the actual location of this tragic event. Other works in a variety of media unpack the complex implications of such urban legends, and address issues of migration, informal economy, and labor on both personal and global scales. *Forever Now!* also incorporates a wide range of photography from photograms made from residual objects of immigrants crossing the border to medium format landscape photography. A light sculpture will also be featured in the exhibition that is made out of neon and acrylic materials.

About the Artist

Julio César Morales is an artist, curator, and educator. Morales' work consistently explores issues of labor, memory, surveillance technologies and identity strategies. This is his second solo show with the gallery. His work has been shown at Louisiana Museum of Modern Art; (Denmark), Museo Tamayo (Mexico City, Mexico), 2009 Lyon Biennale; (Lyon, France), 2008 and 2004 San Juan Triennial (San Juan, Puerto Rico); 2007 Istanbul Biennale; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; 2006 Singapore Biennale; Frankfurter Kunstverein (Frankfurt, Germany); Swiss Cultural Center (Paris, France); San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, The Rooseum Museum of Art (Malmo, Sweden); Peres Projects (Los Angeles); Fototeca de Havana (Cuba); Harris Lieberman Gallery (New York City); MUCA Roma (Mexico City), The Nordic Watercolour Museum; (Skärhamn, Sweden) and the UCLA Hammer Museum (Los Angeles). His work has been written about in Flash Art, The New York Times, Artforum, Frieze Magazine, Los Angeles Times, Art Nexus, and Art in America amongst others. He has received awards from The Rockefeller Foundation, The Creative Work Fund, Artadia, The San Francisco Arts Commission's Public Art Program, The California Arts Council, Friends of Contemporary Art, The Fleishhacker Foundation and AIT Arts Initiative Tokyo in collaboration with The Ishibashi Foundation and Printed Matter in New York. Morales is currently the Curator of Contemporary Art at The Arizona State University Art Museum.

About the Gallery

Gallery Wendi Norris presents a compelling contemporary and modern program with a strong emphasis on the global market. Since 2003, we have worked with over one hundred of the top museums around the world, placing works in their collections and collaborating on solo and group exhibitions. Though, by design, the range of works we show is diverse, a common thread runs through them all: a focus on the human ability to create psychological and spiritual meaning through form and content. Both the artworks and the artists themselves are emblematic of this aesthetic ambition and our trans-cultural nature. Through our expertise in the modern art world, with an unparalleled network in Surrealism, and through our considered selection of some of today's most dynamic artists, we support a range of private clients, museums, and not-for-profit art organizations.

For additional information and images please contact the gallery (415) 346-7812 or email molly@gallerywendinorris.com.