

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Uzumaki Cepeda, 2017
Photo: Redgi Woods



Blues Room, 2017
Photo: Sheridan Montgomery

DAYDREAMING BY UZUMAKI CEPEDA

SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 – JANUARY 6, 2019

LOS ANGELES — The Craft & Folk Art Museum (CAFAM) presents *Daydreaming by Uzumaki Cepeda*, the first museum presentation of the Bronx-born, Los Angeles-based artist. Cepeda is a photographer and fiber sculptor whose **immersive installations** feature domestic spaces covered in brightly colored faux fur. As a first-generation American woman of Dominican heritage, her **faux fur tableaux act as soft spaces for black and brown people who feel unprotected by American public life and policies**. *Daydreaming* is a site-specific, interactive installation that portrays Cepeda's daydream of a safe and happy childhood mixed with the loud palette of New York bodegas, living rooms in the Dominican Republic, and freshly painted acrylic nails. The exhibition is on view from September 30, 2018 through January 6, 2019.

"As a young artist, Uzumaki Cepeda has already built a substantial body of work through self-reliance and a deep belief in the transformative power of art," **says CAFAM exhibitions curator Holly Jerger**. "Her installations are **vibrant environments of empowerment and self-expression**, not only for herself but for anyone society has neglected to provide those spaces. We feel it is important to support her unique vision and the positive impact her work has on the larger community."

"With this exhibition, it's important for me to show that black and brown young people can make something out of nothing," **says Cepeda**. "Our narratives don't always have to be about struggle—we are much more than our struggle, and we can create our own world as long as we stay dedicated to it."

Uzumaki Cepeda (b. 1995) was born and raised in the Bronx, NY and currently lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. Her interactive installations have been shown at the Contemporary Native Art Biennial, Art Mûr Montreal, Canada (2018); Agenda Show, Los Angeles, CA (2018); and Complex Con, Long Beach, CA (2016). She has been featured in print and digital publications including *NYLON*, *Forbes*, *i-D*, and *The Fader*. In the coming months, she will create an installation for *29Rooms* by Refinery29 in New York and Los Angeles.

OPENING RECEPTION

An opening reception for *Daydreaming by Uzumaki Cepeda* takes place on Saturday, October 6 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. The reception is free for CAFAM members and open to the public for a \$12 entry fee.

SPECIAL EDITION

Special editions of handmade sneakers, shirts, art, books, and jewelry made by Uzumaki Cepeda will be available in the CAFAM Shop or online at www.cafamshop.org.

PROGRAMS

CAFAM will offer exhibition-related workshops and events in conjunction with the exhibition, including CraftNight on the first Thursday of the month from 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. and CraftLab family workshops on the second Sunday of each month from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

CraftNight: A Faux Fur Pot Workshop with Uzumaki Cepeda

Thursday, November 1 | 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

\$12 (includes materials, succulent, drinks, and snacks)

Uzumaki Cepeda leads a workshop on covering terracotta planters with the colorful faux fur she uses for her own installations. All participants will receive a pot and a succulent to plant in it.

**Soft Objects: A Faux Fur and Functional Sculpture Workshop
with Uzumaki Cepeda**

Saturday, November 17 | 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. | \$95 (includes materials)

Learn about Uzumaki Cepeda's creative practice of soft-sculpture installations. Participants will experiment with faux fur and use the colorful material to cover their own wooden stool.

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