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# El Paso Museum of History to Open “*Escaramuza*, the Poetics of Home”

## Exhibit explores the artistry, strength, and cultural legacy of women’s equestrian tradition

**EL PASO, Texas**— The El Paso Museum of History (EPMH) is proud to announce the opening of a captivating new exhibit, “*Escaramuza, the Poetics of Home*,” which delves into the world of *escaramuza charra*, the women’s event within the Mexican national sport of *charrería*.

The exhibit, which highlights the strength, grace, and tradition of female *charros* (equestrians), will officially open at the museum on Saturday, June 21.

“We are honored to welcome the community to this glimpse behind the curtain of a powerful tradition,” said El Paso Museum of History Director Erica Marin. ‘*Escaramuza*’ combines a variety of mediums to share lived experiences of artistry and belonging among the women riders of *escaramuza charra*.”

“*Escaramuza, the Poetics of Home*” is a traveling collaborative project that uses photographic portraiture, poetry, and audio interviews to explore the Mexican tradition of *escaramuza* and the women who practice it in the United States. With the exhibit’s arrival in El Paso, “*Escaramuza*” will feature new components to highlight the artform’s relationship to the Border and local histories.

### About the Exhibit

*Charrería* is the national sport of Mexico and is an equestrian sport similar to rodeos. *Escaramuza*, the women’s event within *charrería*, involves a highly choreographed performance set to music as the horses and their riders weave in and around each other. *Escaramuza* originated with the historic riding style of *adelitas*, women who fought during the Mexican Revolution.

In “*Escaramuza*,” artist Constance Jaeggi collaborates with award-winning Los Angeles poet Angelina Sáenz and Texas Poet Laureate Ire’ne Lara Silva to offer a rare view into the world of *escaramuza charra* and the women behind the pageantry and costumes. Pairing intimate photographs of the *escaramuzas* with poetry and interviews, the exhibition provides a sensory feast for viewers that is lyrical and revealing. These collected images and stories create a constellation of women riders of all ages and sizes, from across the United States, giving viewers a glimpse of the real work behind the scenes, the camaraderie between teammates, the strength of family legacies, and a commitment to cultural heritage that is beyond borders. The result is a compelling narrative, a story of women reimagining and reshaping the identity of the *escaramuza charra*, pushing boundaries to broaden a space for their artistry and the labor of love, showing the steel beneath the ribbons and lace.

Previously exhibited in Chicago and Fort Worth, the El Paso presentation features new reflections and artifacts from local *charrería* families, showcasing the generational dedication behind the tradition and its deep ties to the Paso del Norte region and the legacy of the Mexican Revolution.

The El Paso Museum of History is free and open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. For more information about the El Paso Museum of History, please visit [EPMuseumOfHistory.org](https://www.EPMuseumOfHistory.org).

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