

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Space Culture: Innovative Approaches for Public Engagement in Space (8)

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EMERGENT SPACE-ARTS COLLABORATIONS IN MEXICO

Abstract

The purpose of this presentation is to show the work of Mexican contemporary artists and arts venues that have recently engaged in space activities and how this work is shaping cultural policies in the country. For many years Mexico has had a limited role in the international space community. It was only in 2011 that Mexico established its first space agency. In a parallel motion, Mexican artists have taken the lead in engaging society with space exploration and have produced independently space related work. These groups of artists are now responsible for shaping art funds, grants, programmes, scholarships and cultural policies to promote and include science and arts collaborations in the cultural scope of the country. As a consequence, new institutional discussions are now taking place between entities that did not speak to each other. The latter by now bounding together universities, academic centres, science organisations, public bodies, arts institutions and government.

This paper will present up-to-date case studies of the work produced by renowned Mexican artists like the Mexican Space Collective, currently developing a series of satellite for artistic purposes. Also it will discuss new programmes and frameworks for collaborative between artists and scientists planned by the Mexican Arts Council and the National Autonomous University. Furthermore it will present some future scenarios of the possible directions of this emerging trend in Mexico.