

Far-out art! Mexican to send her paintings to the Moon



A museum is a common place for art exhibitions to take place. However, **scientists and artists have decided to share art beyond Earth** in “*The Lunar Codex*” project.

This is the story of **Miriam Molina Salces**, a graduate of **PrepaTec Sinaloa**, who will have her paintings sent **to the Moon**.

“[The Lunar Codex](#)” is a capsule containing enough memory storage to hold all the **selected pieces of art** collected from different contests and artists, which will be **sent to the Moon in 2024**.

“It’s wonderful to know that art transcends, is able to leave the planet. Art is what forms civilizations and links art and science together, helping us to preserve our humanity.”

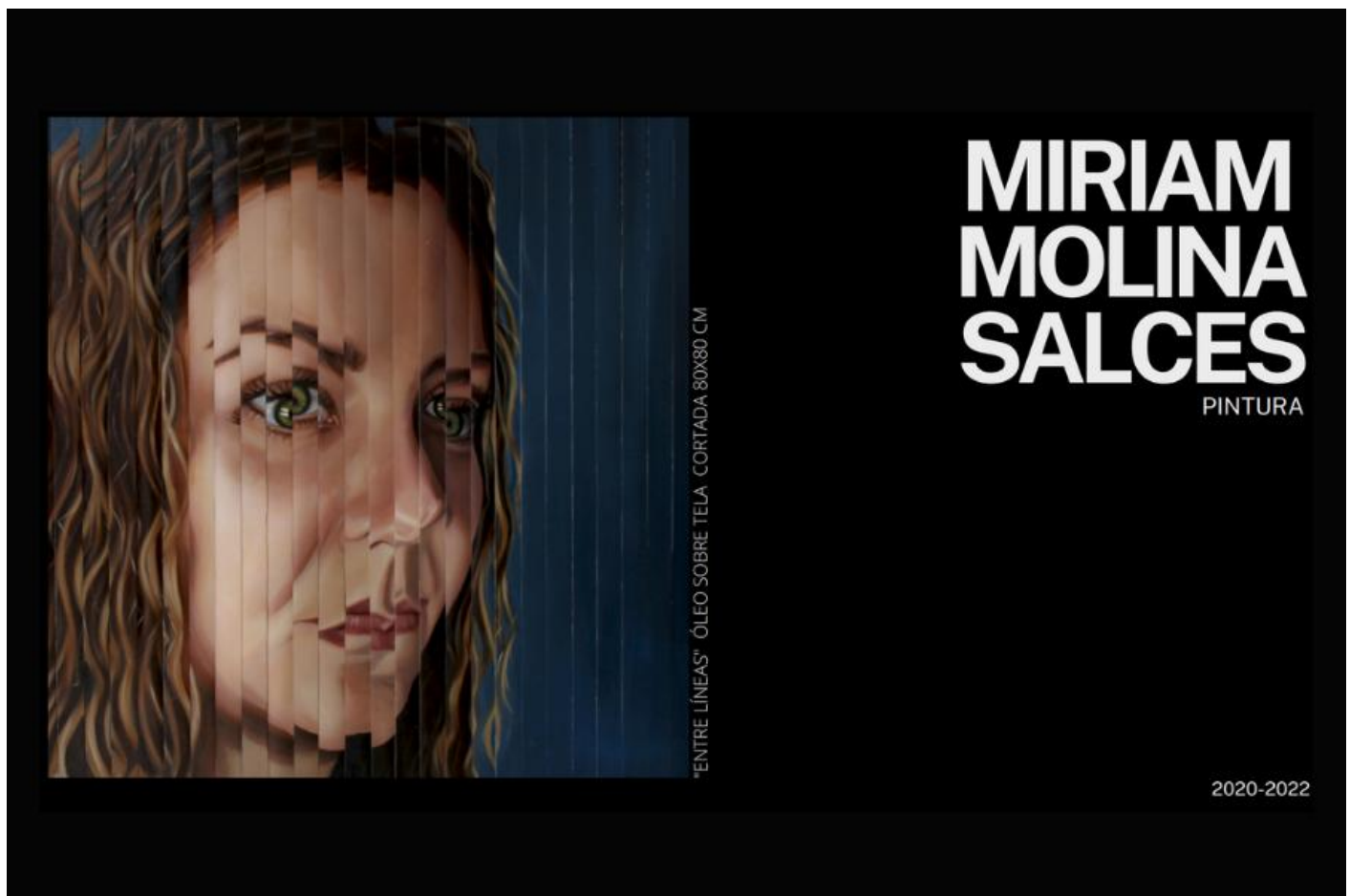
Art that is out of this world

The main objective of ***The Lunar Codex* project** is to **preserve art from Earth on the Moon**, sending works of art, cinema, and literature by **more than 30,000 artists** from around the world.

Thinking that it was a highly prestigious and expensive competition, Miriam **decided instead to apply to the “*Pandemic*” exhibition** held in Ireland.

To her surprise, this exhibition formed part of *The Lunar Codex* project, **earning her a place** and the opportunity to have her paintings included in *The Polaris Collection* capsule, **which will be sent to the Moon in 2024.**

*“It’s wonderful to know that art transcends, is able to leave the planet. **Art is what forms civilizations and links art and science together, helping us to preserve our humanity,**”* said Miriam.



The artist’s background

Miriam Molina Salces grew up in the city of Culiacán and **showed an interest in drawing from an early age.**

When she enrolled at **PrepaTec Sinaloa**, Miriam had the opportunity **to learn different artistic techniques** from different teachers. She eventually decided to pursue an artistic career and studied industrial design in Monterrey.

According to Miriam, PrepaTec convinced her to study something related to art as it was one of her main passions.

*“During high school at the Tec, **I lived and breathed art and culture,**”* confirmed Miriam.

When a **mural contest was held at PrepaTec Sinaloa**, Miriam decided **to participate with a mural entitled “Self-destruction at the Hand of Man”** and won the competition alongside her

husband.

Mario Iribe, a professor at the Tec's Sinaloa campus, stressed that he had met Miriam as a result of seeing some of her work, and that he was proud she had managed to participate in the space project.

*"I've seen some of Miriam's current work, and **she's very talented.** I'm very happy that she's making her mark in the world of art and that she's receiving support,"* said Mario Iribe.

Miriam says that her experiences at **PrepaTec** prompted her to devote herself to art, **highlighting the cultural activities** she participated in.

***"LiFE activities are as important as academic subjects. I've devoted myself to painting, an activity which I discovered in LiFE."* - Miriam Molina.**

Determined to expand her artistic knowledge, **Miriam completed a master's degree in "Modern and Contemporary Art."** Upon completing it, **she was able to set up her first art studio.**

She continued her artistic career by teaching painting to groups of children and adults, but the cultural center where Miriam taught her classes closed.

"After that happened, I rented another studio and resumed giving art classes, but the pandemic began four months later," Miriam said.



"SURVIVAL KIT " 2020
óleo sobre tela 50x80 cm
Selección London Art Biennale

/> width="900" loading="lazy"> **The paintings that will go to the Moon**

During lockdown in the COVID-19 pandemic, **Miriam decided to start painting freely and submitting her paintings to art-related contests.**

She has always been interested in **portraiture and abstract and landscape painting**, using traditional painting techniques such as **oil and acrylic.**

"I try to use very old techniques, but with contemporary themes," said the artist.

In 2021, **she managed to present one of her paintings at the "London Art Biennale" art exhibition in London.**

"60 countries participated. It was a very nice event, and I learned a lot from it," Miriam explained.

Some time later, **she was given a scholarship to study the technique of hyperrealism** in Spain.

The techniques Miriam used for the paintings that will be sent into space were precisely those of oil and hyperrealism **to depict her three children wearing metal face masks.**

"When people wear face masks, their portraits get cut off. We get used to seeing people without a nose and mouth."

"I wanted to depict the sensations of suffocation and suffering that children and young people experienced when wearing face masks," Miriam commented.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Cd8fiA4rXwS/>

She also highlighted that she had **participated in the most recent TEDxHumaya conferences about painting and art at the Tec's Sinaloa campus**, which reminded her of the importance of being involved in educational activities.

*"**LIFE activities are as important as academic subjects.** I've devoted myself to painting, an activity which I discovered in **LIFE**,"* said Miriam.

Finally, Miriam explained that she plans to continue **improving her artistic abilities** and wants to **professionally exhibit more pieces both inside and outside the country**, as well as encouraging young people to get involved in the art world.

READ ALSO:

<https://conecta.tec.mx/en/news/toluca/entrepreneurs/moon-mexican-women-win-space-habitat-design-contest>