



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ROAMING MEXICO: LAURA WILSON HEADLINES
MEADOWS MUSEUM'S 2025–2026 SEASON, OPENING SEPTEMBER 14**

Internationally acclaimed Texas photographer Laura Wilson to present a multifaceted, deeply personal record of her sojourns to Mexico with nearly 90 photographs; other exhibitions to feature Mexican photographer Manuel Álvarez Bravo and Spanish artists Rubén Guerrero and Raimundo de Madrazo

DALLAS (SMU) – July 1, 2025 – The **Meadows Museum, SMU**, will kick off its much-anticipated 2025–2026 exhibition season with ***Roaming Mexico: Laura Wilson***, opening Sept. 14, 2025, and running through Jan. 11, 2026. This personal and visually rich exhibition will feature nearly 90 photographs — most never before published — by the celebrated Texas photographer. While Wilson is already well known for her captivating images of the American West and striking portraits of renowned authors, her latest exhibition presents photographs taken over the past four decades during her travels across Mexico, from the U.S. borderlands to Oaxaca and San Miguel de Allende. Running concurrently with *Roaming Mexico* will be ***Manuel Álvarez Bravo: Visions of Mexico***, presenting photographs by one of the most significant figures in Latin American photography, drawn from the collections of the Meadows Museum, the Amon Carter Museum of American Art and the Dallas Museum of Art.

The season continues Feb. 22–June 21, 2026, when the Meadows will be the only U.S. stop for ***Raimundo de Madrazo***, the first retrospective on this celebrated Spanish painter known for his refined portraits of high-society figures and everyday life at the turn of the 20th century. The museum also will present the third edition of ***Meadows/ARCO Artist Spotlight (MAS)***, which will showcase the work of the abstract painter Rubén Guerrero, a rising star amid Spain's contemporary scene.

Laura Wilson (b. 1939), an internationally esteemed documentary photographer, has published six books and contributed work to *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *Vanity Fair*, London's *Sunday Times Magazine*, and *The Washington Post Magazine*, among other publications. *Roaming Mexico* will be the first presentation of Wilson's Mexican photography.

"It is a privilege to open the fall season with Laura Wilson's vision of Mexico. She is a truly gifted artist who has so eloquently captured the story of the American West. It seems only right that she should have turned that penetrating lens toward Mexico," said Amanda W. Dotseth, The Linda P. and William A. Custard Director of the Meadows Museum and Centennial Chair in the Meadows School of the Arts, SMU. "*Roaming Mexico* speaks to Wilson's admiration for and deep ties to Mexico but does so in ways that are at once sensitive, beautiful, challenging and complex. Mexico is part of the American experience. The Meadows Museum is committed to fostering cross-cultural understanding through Spanish art and its global connections. This exhibition offers a rare and moving look at Mexico through the eyes of one of Texas' most compelling visual storytellers."

Laura Wilson's Roaming Mexico offers expansive, intimate view of Mexican life

At age 85, Wilson continues to capture the human experience with unmatched curiosity and grace. In *Roaming Mexico*, she offers an expansive, often intimate glimpse of Mexican life —

from colorful festivals and quiet village scenes to religious rituals and enduring traditions. A number of the images were created as recently as 2024 and especially for this exhibition.

“It’s not every person’s Mexico — it’s my Mexico,” said Wilson. “Much as in the American West, the Spanish influence is elemental in Mexico. Things we consider icons of Western culture — the horse, the longhorn — came from Spain and gave rise to the *vaquero* or cowboy. Mexico is culturally vibrant — the literature, the art, the sculpture, the architecture. The architects, the writers, and even the collectors that I have focused on are as much a part of modern Mexico, and of my appreciation of Mexico, as the laboring *paisano* or the fire-breather.”

Wilson’s photographs present not a singular narrative but a colorful tapestry of contrasts, depicting a Mexico that is equally rural and urban, religious and secular, timeless and evolving. The images exemplify Wilson’s gift for capturing the poetic in the everyday, from manual labor to street festivals.

Wilson was closely involved in curating the exhibition and overseeing its installation, working in collaboration with Dotseth and her longtime collaborator, designer Gregory Wakabayashi. The photographer credits Wakabayashi’s thoughtful approach for bringing an added layer of intimacy and narrative clarity to the exhibition and to the fully illustrated book that accompanies it. The book, produced in association with Scala Arts & Heritage Publishers Ltd., will be available for purchase in the Meadows Museum’s gift shop.

Below are details regarding the Meadows Museum’s 2025-2026 exhibition lineup:

ROAMING MEXICO: LAURA WILSON

Sept. 14, 2025–Jan. 11, 2026

Included with general admission: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors 65+, \$4 non-SMU students; free for Meadows Museum members, SMU faculty/staff/students, and youth 18 and under

For four decades, the wilds of the American West have served as a key source of inspiration for renowned Dallas-based documentary photographer Laura Wilson (b. 1939). Her images capture the lives of people across ranches, Native American reservations, rodeos and rural high schools.

For Wilson, Mexico has always been a key chapter of her story. While her early published work focused on life along the Mexico-U.S. border, *Roaming Mexico* will introduce viewers to a more comprehensive, if deeply personal, vision of the U.S.’s southern neighbor. It brings together 40 years’ worth of images documenting Wilson’s sojourns across Mexico and areas just beyond its northern border.

The nearly 90 photographs offer a unique perspective of a multifaceted Mexico seen through Wilson’s eyes. They capture colorful festivals, traditional farms, and the poetry of everyday life. The viewer is therefore presented not with one Mexico—defined, for example, by its northern border, its religiosity, or rural populations—but with a nuanced, often contradictory view of a land of dynamic contrasts.

This exhibition has been organized by the Meadows Museum and is funded by a generous gift from The Meadows Foundation. *See Laura Wilson’s bio at end of release.*

MANUEL ÁLVAREZ BRAVO: VISIONS OF MEXICO

Sept. 15, 2025–Jan. 11, 2026

Included with general admission: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors 65+, \$4 non-SMU students; free for Meadows Museum members, SMU faculty/staff/students,

and youth 18 and under

Presented in conjunction with *Roaming Mexico: Laura Wilson* is this captivating, focused exhibition dedicated to the work of influential Mexican photographer Manuel Álvarez Bravo (1902–2002), one of the most important artists in 20th-century Latin America. His work is distinguished by its striking compositions that draw from surrealist, modernism and documentary traditions. A contemporary of such luminaries as Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo and Edward Weston, Álvarez Bravo's photography often juxtaposes the everyday with the enigmatic. Featuring more than 30 silver gelatin prints from the 1920s to the 1980s, the exhibition draws from the collections of the Meadows Museum, the Dallas Museum of Art and the Amon Carter Museum of American Art. Together, these images offer a compelling window into the artistic and cultural landscape of 20th-century Mexico.

This exhibition has been organized by the Meadows Museum and is funded by a generous gift from The Meadows Foundation.

RAIMUNDO DE MADRAZO

Feb. 22–June 21, 2026

Included with general admission: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors 65+, \$4 non-SMU students; free for Meadows Museum members, SMU faculty/staff/students, and youth 18 and under

Born into one of the most important artistic dynasties in Spain, Raimundo de Madrazo (Rome, 1841–Versailles, 1920) was a renowned genre painter and portraitist. This exhibition — the first retrospective dedicated to the artist — explores Madrazo's international career as he became one of the most successful painters in Belle Époque Paris.

After studying painting with his father, who urged him to produce large historical canvases in pursuit of academic recognition, Madrazo instead settled in Paris to paint for that city's thriving art market. He produced commercial works inspired by the *tableautins*, or small paintings of carefully staged interior scenes, by Ernest Meissonier and Mariano Fortuny. In doing so, Madrazo demonstrated remarkable painterly skill and a mastery of color, thus commanding high prices internationally.

By the final decades of the 19th century, Madrazo had established himself as the leading figure among the colony of Spanish artists in Paris. He produced numerous portraits of Spanish and Parisian women and carnival scenes that were widely reproduced in prints. He also gained favor among North America's elite, earning a reputation as the go-to artist for "French-style" portraits.

This exhibition has been organized by the Meadows Museum, SMU, Dallas, and Fundación MAPFRE, Madrid, and is funded by a generous gift from The Meadows Foundation.

MEADOWS/ARCO ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: RUBÉN GUERRERO

Feb. 22–June 21, 2026

Included with general admission: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors 65+, \$4 non-SMU students; free for Meadows Museum members, SMU faculty/staff/students, and youth 18 and under

The Meadows Museum and Fundación ARCO have selected painter Rubén Guerrero (b. 1976) for the third edition of the Meadows/ARCO Artist Spotlight (MAS) program, an

initiative that promotes contemporary Spanish artists through exhibitions at the Meadows Museum. Guerrero's visually and intellectually engaging paintings, which pivot between abstraction and figuration and explore the limits of two-dimensionality, have been exhibited in major venues for contemporary art across Spain, including the Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo in Seville and the Centro de Arte Contemporáneo in Málaga. His work can also be found in public and private collections in Spain, Germany and the U.S. As with prior MAS exhibitions, the artist will travel to Dallas to participate in several educational programs, many exclusively for SMU students.

MEADOWS MUSEUM GENERAL INFORMATION

The Meadows Museum is located on the SMU campus at 5900 Bishop Blvd., Dallas, TX 75205. Hours are 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tuesday–Saturday with extended hours until 9 p.m. on Thursday and 1–5 p.m. Sunday. Parking is free for museum visitors. General admission is \$12 adults, \$10 seniors 65+, \$4 non-SMU students; and free for Meadows Museum members, SMU faculty/staff/students, and youth 18 and under. For more information, go to meadowsmuseumdallas.org.

###

About Laura Wilson

Laura Wilson's photographs have appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *Vanity Fair*, *London's Sunday Times Magazine*, and *The Washington Post Magazine*. She has published six books of photographs: *Watt Matthews of Lambshead* (Texas State Historical Society, 1989), *Hutterites of Montana* (Yale University Press, 2000), *Avedon at Work* (University of Texas Press, 2003), *Grit and Glory* (Bright Sky Press, 2003), *That Day: Pictures in the American West* (Yale University Press, 2015), and *From Rodin to Plensa* (Meadows Museum, SMU, 2018).

Wilson was elected to the Philosophical Society of Texas and is a member of the Texas Institute of Letters, which bestowed upon her the Carr P. Collins Award for *Avedon at Work*, a publication also named book of the year by the Royal Photographic Society. She was inducted into the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame in 2019. Her work has been exhibited at institutions such as the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin, the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, the Booth Western Art Museum and the Meadows Museum.

A native of Massachusetts, Laura Wilson has lived in Dallas since 1965 and is the mother of three sons: Andrew, Owen and Luke.

About the Meadows Museum

The Meadows Museum is the leading U.S. institution focused on the study and presentation of the art of Spain. In 1962, Dallas businessman and philanthropist Algur H. Meadows donated his private collection of Spanish paintings, as well as funds to start a museum, to Southern Methodist University. The museum opened to the public in 1965, marking the first step in fulfilling Meadows's vision to create "a small Prado for Texas." Today, the Meadows is home to one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art outside of Spain. The collection spans from the 10th to the 21st centuries and includes medieval objects, Renaissance and Baroque sculptures, and major paintings by Golden Age and modern masters. For more information visit meadowsmuseumdallas.org.

CONTACTS:

DALLAS

Becky Mayad
Mayad PR

MADRID

Julián Hernández Miranda
julian.hdez58@gmail.com

becky@mayadpr.com
214-697-7745

+ 34 630 963 735