

Press Release

Eleven Ten Studio is proud to present **THERE IS NO RAIN WHERE I'M COMING FROM**, an exhibition featuring the works of Lucero Barrientos and Jiaxi Han, two artists whose practices intersect at the crossroads of heritage, memory, and cross-cultural exchange. On view from October 31st to November 23rd, 2024, the exhibition explores the nuanced relationships between ancient traditions and contemporary identity, offering viewers an immersive dialogue between past and present.

Lucero Barrientos brings the iconography of the ancient Chavín culture of Peru into a contemporary setting. Her work draws from the spiritual and political imagery of one of the oldest pre-Columbian civilizations, known for its intricate carvings and sculptures. Through her modern interpretation, Barrientos revitalizes Chavín's design principles—such as symmetry, motif repetition, and contrast—creating patterns that fuse historical aesthetics with contemporary design sensibilities. Her exploration of Chavín's ceremonial symbols evokes the enduring power of ancestral knowledge, celebrating cultural diversity while addressing its relevance in today's global landscape.

Jiaxi Han, meanwhile, presents: **Red, Blue, and Family Letters**, a project that bridges her native Guizhou, China, and Switzerland through a reflection on colonial history and textile traditions. Han revisits the history of the European textile industry's imitation of Oriental patterns, specifically focusing on the Swiss Glarner Tuechli. She reintroduces these historical designs to Miao artisans in her hometown, who, using traditional hand-dyed batik techniques, reinterpret the patterns through a distinctly Eastern lens. The resulting hybrid textiles highlight the contrast between industrial mass production and the slow, meticulous process of artisanal craft. Han's work challenges viewers to consider the legacies of cultural exchange, colonization, and authorship.

The title of the exhibition, **THERE IS NO RAIN WHERE I'M COMING FROM**, reflects both artists' exploration of displacement and the desire to reconnect with cultural roots. For Barrientos, this "absence of rain" speaks to the spiritual void that comes from the erosion of cultural traditions. Han's work similarly addresses the historical emptiness left by the commodification of indigenous art and the erasure of its origins in the global economy.

Together, Barrientos and Han's works weave a conversation around cultural preservation, transformation, and the invisible histories embedded in objects and traditions. In a time of increased globalization, **THERE IS NO RAIN WHERE I'M COMING FROM** offers a powerful reflection on the ways in which cultural identities are continually reshaped by both ancient traditions and modern forces.

Event Details:

Exhibition Title: **THERE IS NO RAIN WHERE I'M COMING FROM**

Artists: Lucero Barrientos & Jiaxi Han

Curator: Aleksandra Cegielska

Opening Reception: October 31st, 2024, 6:00 PM

Exhibition Duration: September 31 - November 23

Location:

Eleven Ten Studio

Feldbergstrasse 86, Basel

eleventenstudio.com

Opening Hours:

Wednesday - Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm, Saturday: 11 am - 4 pm

