

**PRESS RELEASE****Lisa Alvarado***Thalweg*

July 17 - August 30, 2020

A thalweg is a pathway tracing the lowest elevation within a river, a fluvial median that demarcates the boundary between political territories - a border. The thalweg is an in-between space, an intersection of convergence, divergence, amalgamation and separation.

During the early 1930s, the United States enforced Mexican Repatriation, a mass deportation of almost 2 million people of Mexican descent. Sixty percent of the deported were American citizens. During World War II, many of those who were repatriated were encouraged to re-enter under the status of aliens to work as migrant farm laborers.

*Thalweg* forms an alignment of free-hanging paintings, photos, sound and sand.

The works in *Thalweg* are repositories of memory, vibrational maps and reminders of invisible states. They are sensorial assemblages that recall awareness to mixture (mestizaje) within geometric hands, moon tide shapes, and sand textures. Constructed for vibrational absorption, the works envision a bridge between worlds that balances divided parts into new wholeness.

- Lisa Alvarado

Lisa Alvarado (b. 1982) is an artist and harmoniumist based in Chicago. Previous solo exhibitions include *Polyphonic Shadow Cloth*, LC Queisser, Tbilisi, Georgia (2018); *Sound Talisman*, Bridget Donahue, New York (2017) and *Traditional Object*, Soccer Club Club, Chicago (2013). Recent group exhibitions include *Psychedelic Healing Center*, Essex Flowers, New York (2019); *Out of Easy Reach*, Gallery 400, Chicago (2018); *Alan Shields Project*, Van Doren Waxter, New York (2018); *The Freedom Principle: Experiments in Art and Music, 1965 to Now*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia (2017) and Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2016) and *Material Issue*, KMAC Museum, Louisville (2016), among others. Alvarado plays harmonium in the psych-minimalist band Natural Information Society. They have performed in numerous venues including *Pitchfork*, Chicago (2018); *Rewire*, Netherlands (2018); Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia (2017) and Serralves Museum, Portugal (2016). In addition to releasing albums on Eremite Records & Drag City Records, she has also performed with Theaster Gates's *Black Monks* at Palais De Tokyo (2019) and Documenta 13 (2012); and in Simon Starling's play *At Twilight*, Common Guild, Glasgow (2016) and Japan Society, New York (2017).