

Wence (Wenceslao) Martinez

Education and Experience

- 1968-73** Apprenticed under father and grandfather in Teotitlán del Valle, Oaxaca, Mexico
- 1973-77** Taller Nacional de Tapiz, Mexico City, Mexico. Full scholarship. Studied Gobelins techniques, technical wool dyeing and design under Pedro Preux (disciple of Jean Luçat). Commissioned by school to assist in weaving a large Gobelins tapestry for Carlos Merida.
- 1994** Opened Martinez Studio, Jacksonport, Door County, WI
- 2020** Opened Martinez Studio, Canyon Road, Santa Fe, NM.

Solo Exhibitions: Martinez Studio

- 2016** *Traditional Textiles Meet Modern Design: Wence and Sandra Martinez.* Museum of Wisconsin Art (MOWA), West Bend, WI. August 6-November 6. Erika Petterson, curator
- 2015** *Contemporary Flatweave Rooted in Legacy: Wence and Sandra Martinez.* Latino Arts Gallery, UCC Milwaukee, WI. September 11-October 14. Zulay Oskay, curator
- 2008** *Wence & Sandra Martinez: Presence.* (Catalog) Fairfield Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay, WI. May 16-June 28. Shan Bryan-Hanson, curator
- 2004** *Ten Years: Martinez Studio.* Latino Arts Gallery, UCC Milwaukee, WI. October. Zulay Oskay, curator

Group Exhibitions

- 2021** *Box of Visions: Modern and Contemporary Art from Mexico in the Midwest, Caja de Visiones: Arte Moderno y Contemporaneo de Mexico en el Medio Oeste de los Estados Unidos,* Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI. Catalog. September 18 - January 23. Mel Becker Solomon, curator

Reimagining the Global Village, Milwaukee Institute of Art,
Frederick Layton Gallery, Milwaukee, WI. October 11-
December 4. Nirmal Raja, curator

2020 *Currents 2020: National Craft Exhibition and Symposium*,
(Catalog) Shack Art Center, Everett, WA. March 5-May 29.
Michael Monroe, curator

Textile Tableau: An Exploration of Painting with Fibers. Miller
Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay, WI. January 18 - February 24.
Helen del Guidice, curator

2019 *Excellence in Fibers*. Craft in America Center, Los Angeles,
CA. May 11-July 6, Emily Zayden, curator

2018 *Craft Forms*, Wayne Art Center. Wayne, PA. December 7,
2018 – January 26, 2018. Perry A. Price, juror

Excellence in Fibers. North Hollywood, CA. Weavings *Ojo de
Agua* and *Tronco* included in *Fiber Arts Now* (Magazine)
winter edition

2017 *Borders and Neighbors: Craft Connectivity Between the U.S.
and Mexico* Exhibition at El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical
Monument, Biscailuz Gallery, Los Angeles, CA. November 16
2017 – February 25, 2018. Emily Zaiden, director

Craft Forms, Wayne Art Center. Wayne, PA. December 8,
2017 - January 27, 2018. Nora Atkinson, juror

Gender Bend: Women in Wood, Men at the Loom. (Catalog)
Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA. October 21, 2017-March
11, 2018. Invitational. Weavings curated by Jon Eric Riis

*Estamos Aqui, We Are Here, Celebrating Latino Identity in
Northeast Wisconsin*. Neville Public Museum, Green Bay, WI.
May 6, 2017-April 2018. Collaborative weavings, traditional
weavings by Cósme Martinez (Wence's father), Wence's
photographs, filmed interview. Invitational. Kevin Cullen,
curator

2016 *Creative Customs: International Folk Art*. Guenzel Gallery,
Peninsula School of Art, Fish Creek, WI. October 21, 2016-
January 10, 2017. Collaborative weavings with traditional

weavings by Wence's father (Cósme Martinez). Invitational.
Kay McKinley, curator

Form Follows Function: The Intersection of Art and Craft. Hardy
Gallery, Ephraim, WI. September 2-October 9. Invitational.
Sarah Zamencnik, curator

2013 *Craftforms*, Wayne Art Center. Wayne, PA. December 6, 2013-
January 25, 2014. Lena Vigna, juror

Press

2021 LeFevre, Camille, *Kindred: The Magical, Meaningful
Collaboration of Wence and Sandra Martinez*. American
Craft Magazine, Minneapolis, MN. Vol. 81 No. 3 Fall

Marcus, Linda, *Contemporary Fiber Artists-Eye of the Needle,
Sandra and Wence Martinez*. Artdose Magazine, Milwaukee,
WI. Vol. 31 Summer

2017 Renallo, Andrew, *Rare Form: Rare Craft Fellowship Awards*.
American Craft Magazine, Minneapolis, MN. June/July, p. 46

Radyk, Michael and Renallo, Andrew, *Rare Craft Fellowship-
Looms and Paintbrushes: The Collaborative Relationship of
Wence and Sandra Martinez*. American Craft Council,
Minneapolis, MN (filmed interviews)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pvBZuWFrg94>
<https://youtu.be/YqRqZoxyAaw>

Guerber, Meghan, *Cape Calm: Door County, Wisconsin—
Woven Together*. American Craft Magazine, Minneapolis,
MN. April/May, p. 70-71

2016 Moriarty, Judith Ann, *Wence and Sandra Martinez: Woven
Together, Art Without Borders*. Shepherd Express, Milwaukee,
WI. August 18, p. 26. Review of Museum of Wisconsin Art solo
exhibition

2015 Minerath, Kat, *Contemporary Flatweave by Wence and
Sandra Martinez: Tradition is alive (and growing) at Latino
Arts*. Shepherd Express, Milwaukee, WI. September 24, p. 30.
Review of Latino Arts solo exhibition

2014 O'Hara, Delia, *Celebrating the Spirits: Artists tap life-affirming, death embracing motifs from their Mexican heritage.* American Craft Magazine, Minneapolis, MN. Oct/Nov Masters Issue, p. 38-40

2014 Astrouski, Joe and Ward, Ryan, *Wisconsin Life: Woven Together: Wence and Sandra Martinez.* PBS/Wisconsin Public Television, Milwaukee, WI. January 14. Video link, 5 minutes
<https://youtu.be/1ajvEJod7Dg>

Collections

2017 Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Washington D.C. *Flechas Caja, Buffalo Robe Eclipse*
Museum of Wisconsin Art, West Bend, WI. Sandra's *Tronco* painting and Wence's commissioned weaving of *Tronco*

2014 National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago IL. *Codice Nuttall*

Publications

2016 Jones-Maher, Virginia, *Selected Artists of Door County*, Door County, WI. Stonehill Publishing, Ephraim, WI, p. 118-121.
Profiles and images

Lectures

2017 *Looms and Paintbrushes: The Collaborative Relationship of Wence and Sandra Martinez*, American Craft Council Library Salon Series. Minneapolis, MN. Lecture. Invitational. June 14

2016 *Woven Together: Artist Talk*, Museum of Wisconsin Art, West Bend, WI. Lecture. Part of solo exhibition. October 20

Awards & Fellowships

2018 United States Artists Fellowship for Collaborative Craft

Best in Show: Wall or Floor Work, Tronco. Excellence in Fibers, *Fiber Art Now* (Magazine)

2017 Finalists, Rare Craft Fellowship. American Craft Council with The Balvenie recognizes and supports artists' contributions to the maintenance and revival of traditional or rare crafts in America. Jurors: Michael Radyk, Jennifer Zwillling, David Stewart and Anthony Bourdain. Brooklyn, NY. Nominated. Award Media Event, April 18

Exhibitors Choice Award: Bronze, Smithsonian Craft Show, National Building Museum, Washington D.C. Voted by peers.
April 28

2016 *Silver Award for Overall Excellence, Smithsonian Craft Show, Washington D.C. April. Award jurors: Lloyd Herman, Jack Rasmussen, Toots Zynsky, April 20*