



V.I. Mann, C. Charles. 1491 - *New Revelations of the Americas before Columbus*. New York - Vintage Books, 2005. Print., 2014, Acrylic, gold leaf on wood, 11 x 153"



Onloaded: Amelec Diaz February 21 – March 16, 2014

Amelec Diaz navigates the choppy waters of highly-charged contemporary themes of identity, social and political commentary, and exploring the body during his creative process. With an acute curiosity and unquenchable passion for self-expression through his art making, Diaz effectively utilizes his training in contemporary art technical practices along with extensive ongoing research in revisionist histories of people and power, migration/immigration, archeological objects from pre-Colombian cultures – Mayan, Aztec, Olmec, and Moche – in the Americas, and first-hand experiences in dealing with the societal imposition of marginality on targeted people. His extensive arsenal of materials includes stucco, chicken wire, spray paint, graphite, acrylics and oils, Styrofoam, ceramics, xerography, and papier-mâché. His five-year trajectory as a practicing artist is both impressive in terms of early success and recognition, as well as in his continuous leaps forward in making idea-driven art work with increasing technical prowess. Diaz created a new body of work for phICA's *Onloaded* exhibition and worked in an auditory collaboration with Le Idiom for the project.

Ted G. Decker,
Curator/Director, phICA



P.O. Box 45224
Phoenix, AZ 85064-5224
www.phica.org

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