

Chiachio & Giannone: Celebrating Diversity

Curated by Gabriela Urtega

Map in 6 colors

From March 17 to June 30 2019 / [Room 000000](#)

Map in 6 colors

This map will join you as you visit the exhibition *Chiachio & Giannone: Celebrating Diversity*, also when you return home or at school. You can write on it, mark it, give it away. All of your ideas can be kept in it.

Celebrating Diversity includes textile mosaics *-Family in 6 Colors-* and flags made out of fragments of old fabrics *-Pride Flags-*. Both projects are crossed by 4 different themes: work, equality, community and territory.

Before and after, love

Gabriela Urtiaga
Chief Curator of Visual Arts CCK

Chiachio & Giannone is the signature used by this Argentinean duo, made up of artists Leo Chiachio (Banfield, 1969) and Daniel Giannone (Córdoba, 1964). They both started their careers as painters and in 2003 they began sharing their life and production.

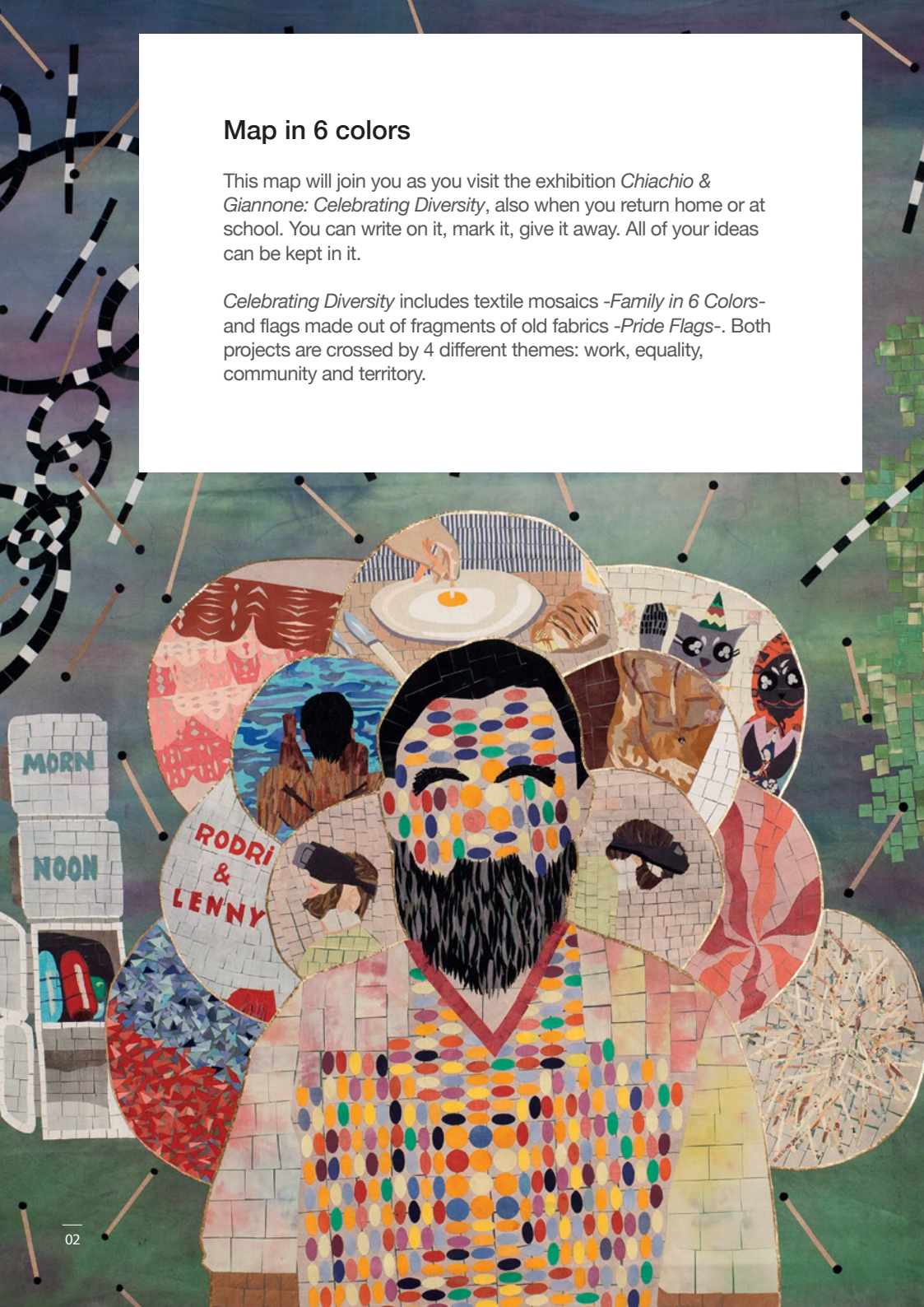
Throughout their work, they've combined artisanal techniques, crafts and skills of a domestic nature with daily use materials, even including their own garments. In their pieces, which range from small formats to large-scale installations, they revisit and problematize techniques and procedures commonly associated with the so-called minor arts and feminine practices such as embroidery, textile printing, mosaics and porcelain.

Combining game and fantasy, children's entertainment and utopian illusions that blur limitations, they seek to highlight the value of diversity and overcome gender distinctions. Portraits are the most recurrent topic in their works, with self-portraits in which they are depicted in disguise, mixed with backgrounds with profuse vegetation and a multiplicity of colors. These are family portraits; they feature themselves, their colleagues and of course, their dogs, all of them inseparable figures of their history and repertoire of images.

Celebrating Diversity is a new chapter in their work. A show in progress. It was first showcased at the CCK as part of the exhibition *Democracy Under Construction* which took place in Buenos Aires in 2018. Made up of *Family in 6 Colors* -a set of textile mosaics- and *Pride Flags* -a group of flags with different formats, created in collaboration with artist Cecilia Koppmann and together with the audience-, it is now being continued at the galleries of MOLAA. As a work in progress, the rooms of the museum become a workshop where one can watch the artists at work and also participate in the creation of the pieces.

Chiachio & Giannone work with the community and turn this into an exchange of individual and collective desires that challenge the way history is constructed and give way to new identities. By paying tribute to renowned international and Argentinean artists that have worked in favor of gender diversity, they question stereotypes that govern social bonds and artistic codes. Here, the family is represented by a constellation of creators united by art and their belonging to the LGBTIQ+ community, whose emblems are the six colors that appear in the background of the ensemble.

Let us celebrate diversity!
Before and after, love. Always.



• Knowing the artists a little better

Q&A with Chiachio & Giannone

- 1- What things can't be missed in my work? Color, humor.
- 2- With what elements do I work? Threads, needles, fabrics, papers, gouache, photos, books, cloth iron, scissors.
- 3- With what ideas? With the idea of a possible world. The ideas that represent this imaginary world in which we want to live in.
- 4- When I search, what do I search for? The same sensation of creating when I painted as a child and being as close as we can get to our dreams, and how we see ourselves in our dreams.
- 5- What do I look when I'm on the street? Peoples' reactions, how they're dressed, how they're styled. The storefront of bakeries, the magazine stands, flower shops, dogs and cats.
- 6- What's my routine before I start working? Having breakfast, being on social media, feeding my dogs Piolín, Chicha y La Dorado, playing music and turning on the studio's lights. Set up the mate* or teapot, always present in our working space.
- 7- What actions do I carry out before I arrive to the artwork? We immerse ourselves in the artwork, every action counts.
- 8- What do I repeat? Two or three things are repeated. Also the embroidery stitches.
- 9- A book, a movie, a word, a song, a phrase, an author. While England Sleeps, Sunset Boulevard, magari (Italian word meaning "maybe"), Because the night by Patti Smith, Michel Pastoureau. Madame Satá.
- 10- An artist. David Hockney
- 11- What power would you like to have? The power to fly.
- 12- What's your most frequent mood? Taciturn. Nostalgic.
- 13- Do you have a phrase or saying that you use frequently? (About birthdays) "Better having a birthday, that not having one at all".
- 14- What's your favorite flower? Magnolia y Dahlia.
- 15- What's your favorite animal? Dog.
- 16- A fiction hero or heroine? Wolverine.
- 17- Besides art, what discipline are you interested in? Figure skating. Swimming.

* Mate is an typical Argentinian infused drink. It is traditionally drunk in a particular social setting, such as family gatherings or with friends, where the same straw is shared by everyone drinking.

• We invite you to close your eyes.

How many colors do you remember in a rainbow? Write them down here:



The rainbow flag was made popular in 1978 as a symbol of gay pride by its creator, Gilbert Baker, a Kansas-born artist. The current version of this flag consists of six stripes of colors red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple, which represent the colors of the rainbow.

• What can you associate from these colors?

Can you write or draw their meanings?

RED

ORANGE

YELLOW

GREEN

BLUE

PURPLE

• What do the colors in the rainbow flag stand for?

Red symbolizes life (this is why the HIV/AIDS ribbon is red).

Orange symbolizes health.

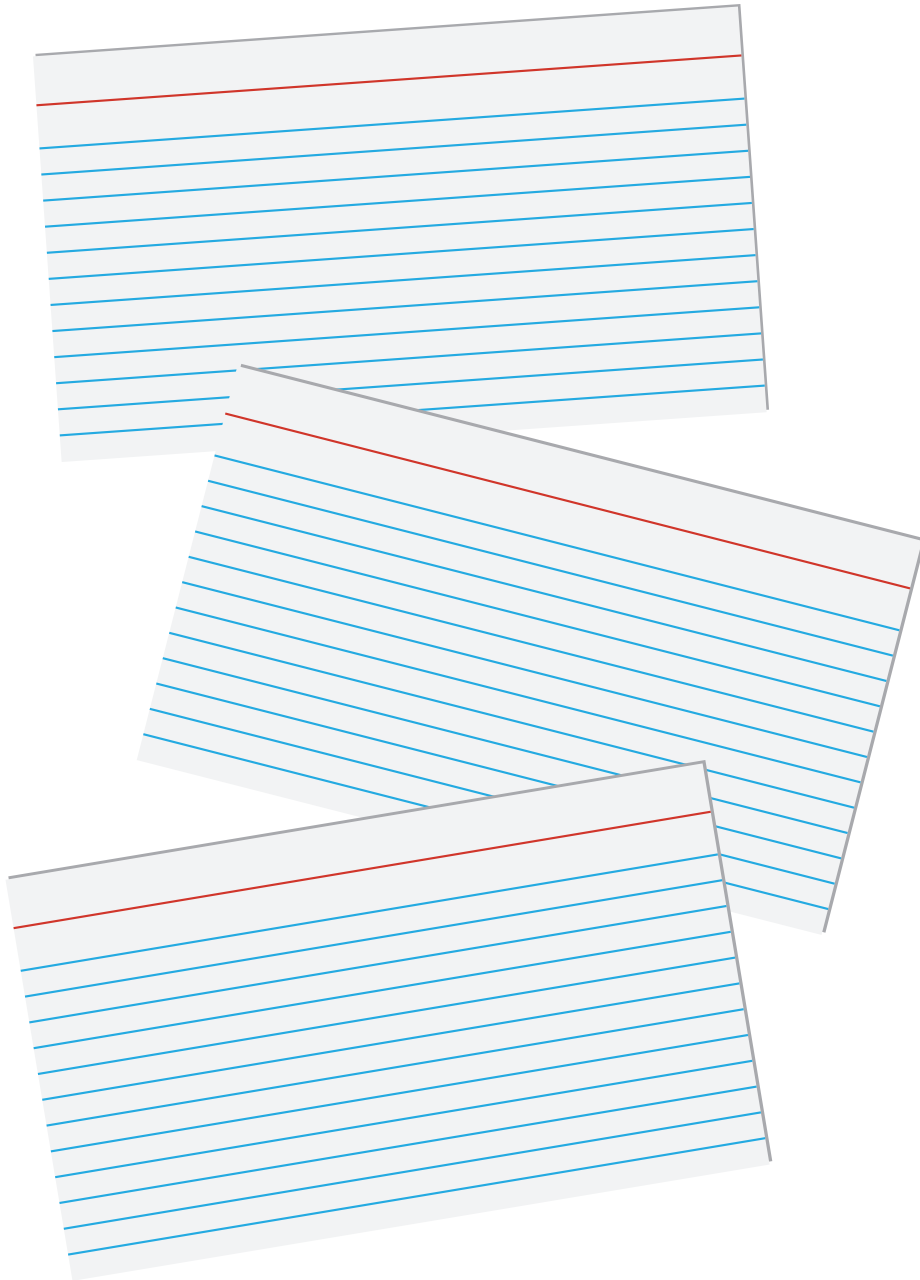
Yellow symbolizes sunlight.

Green symbolizes nature.

Blue symbolizes harmony and serenity.

Purple symbolizes human spirit.

- We invite you to choose the pieces you liked the most (or disliked the most) and write your sensations, thoughts and ideas:



- We propose you to make an Instagram Story inviting your followers to *Chiachio & Giannone: Celebrating Diversity*. You can do it alone or with someone else. Tag us so we can see it at: @molaaart @chiachiogiannone @elcckoficial. Share your experience with us!

- Do any of the pieces call your attention? We invite you to look into it/them for awhile. If you could, what would you ask this/these image/s?

- What would the piece be if it were....

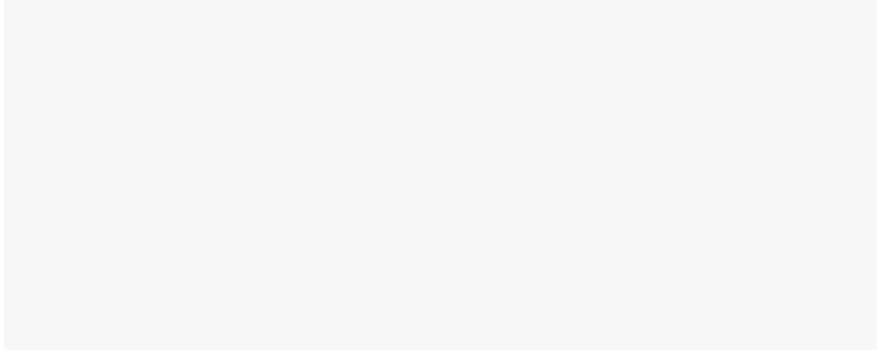
A song?

A moment of the day?

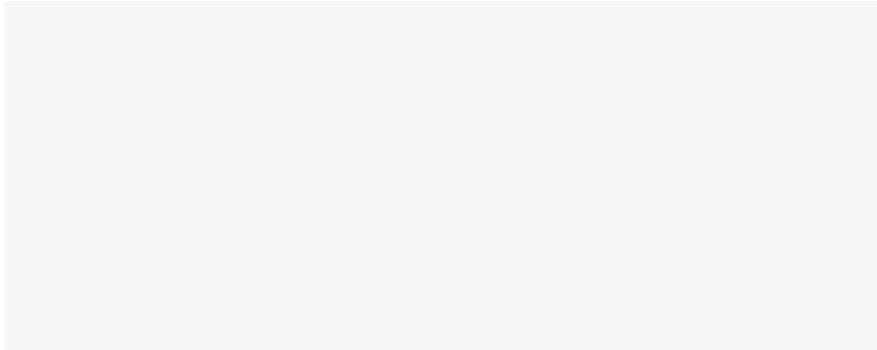
A scent?

A sound?

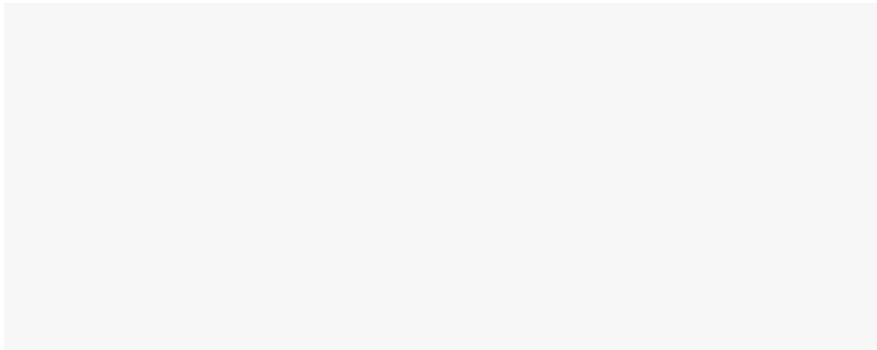
- How do the artworks communicate amongst each other?



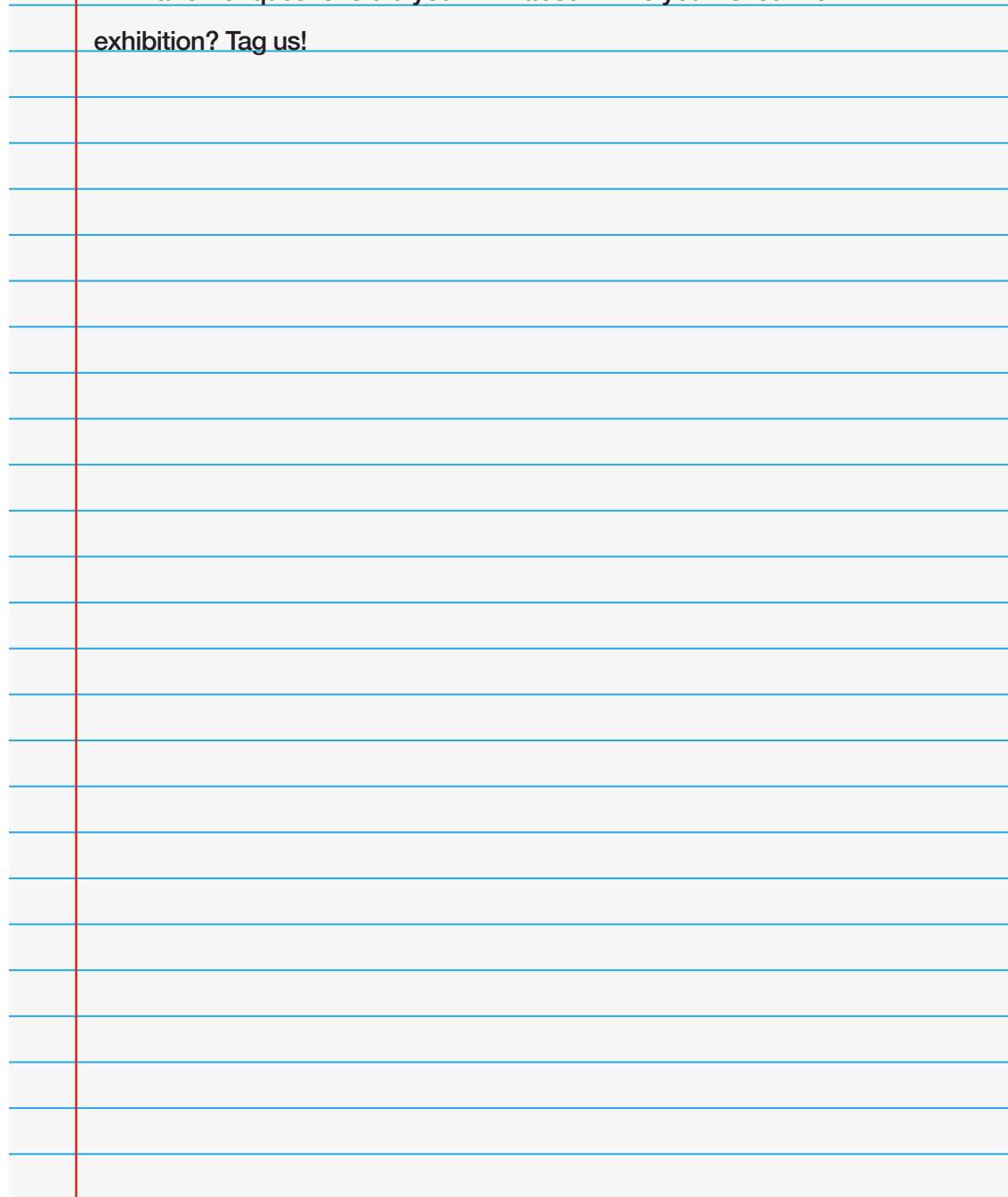
- What idea brings them together?



- What idea do you think separates them?



- What other questions did you think about while you visited the exhibition? Tag us!



• **Did the exhibition at MOLAA remind you of anything?**

Search your city, your library, Google, your social media.

• **Now it's time to make a list! What ideas can you take home from this exhibition? Did you discover any new words?**

- **Chiachio & Giannone sketch up all of their textile mosaics before starting a new artwork. Can you draw here your own sketch of one of the pieces in the exhibition?**



About Chiachio & Giannone

Leo Chiachio (Buenos Aires, 1969) and Daniel Giannone (Córdoba, 1964) work together as Chiachio & Giannone since 2003, and have ever since shared many collective and solo exhibitions in Argentina and institutions abroad. They have been invited to participate in international art fairs and have received numerous awards, including the Cité Internationale de la Tapisserie d'Aubusson, France. They live and work in Buenos Aires (Argentina).

