

# ART IS BOND.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ART IS BOND. Unveils Troy Ezequiel Montes' Photography in a Debut Solo Exhibition, *Cielo Azul / Cielo Nublado***

*Houston, October 23, 2023* - ART IS BOND. takes immense pleasure in unveiling a heartfelt and evocative solo exhibition, *Cielo Azul / Cielo Nublado*, an enchanting visual journey by Mexican American photo documentarian, Troy Ezequiel Montes. This collection has matured over years with an innate grace, emerging as a nostalgic ode to the notion of motherland and an artist's unwavering pursuit of authenticity. The premiere of *Cielo Azul / Cielo Nublado*, set for Friday, November 17th, 2023, transcends the confines of a conventional exhibition, as it extends an intimate invitation for guests to further immerse themselves in Montes' labor of love by attending the accompanying artist talk.

*Cielo Azul / Cielo Nublado* is a poignant memoir, a heartfelt narrative that intertwines the threads of Montes' annual pilgrimages to his ancestral *pueblito*, El Porvenir, in Zacatecas, México.

Working and living in a dichotomy between two homelands, Montes' photographs weave a delicate tapestry that bridges the physical and spiritual chasm that separates him from his familial roots, offering a tender glimpse into the lives of loved ones he cherishes during the brief weeks they're reunited each year.

In *Cielo Azul / Cielo Nublado*, Montes delves into the profound, almost poetic concept of eternal homecoming, exploring the complex dance of identity, love, and longing.

Montes' vivid chronicle of El Porvenir, poetically translating to "What Is To Come," constitutes a seminal chapter in his artistic odyssey. A profound act of introspection, his portrayal of family and home metamorphoses into a form of self-portraiture and self-curation, a beguiling dance of identity and destiny. *Cielo Azul / Cielo Nublado* waters Troy Ezequiel Montes' roots, affirming that comprehending one's origins is the compass that guides us toward our destiny.

**Opening Reception & Artist Talk:**

Friday, November 17th, 2023

6 - 9 PM

**For media inquiries, interviews, or additional images, please contact:**

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**FEATURED IMAGES**

High resolution, low resolution images, and Troy Ezequiel Montes' headshot can be found [here](#).



Todas Las Tardes

2022

Archival Pigment Print



Callejeros

2022

Archival Pigment Print



Cielo Azul  
2023  
Archival Pigment Print



Sigo El Camino  
2022  
Archival Pigment Print



Para Vivir Más Contento  
2022  
Archival Pigment Print

### **About Troy Ezequiel Montes**

Troy Ezequiel Montes, a native Texan from Dayton, discovered his artistic calling through photography. His captivating images reflect raw, unfiltered honesty, capturing the essence of his community's culture, history, and the overlooked individuals within it.

Montes is a dedicated leader in the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) artistic community, extending his support through documentary and portrait photography, preserving his family's rich histories and cultural roots. He collaborates with organizations like Black People Church, the Contemporary Art Museum Houston, and ART IS BOND., amplifying BIPOC voices. As the Co-Owner and Director of Casa Luz, a public artist studio and community space, Troy exhibits his work in solo pop-up exhibitions throughout Houston. "Cielo Azul / Cielo Nublado" marks his debut gallery solo exhibition, a significant milestone in his evolving career.

Approaching his work with humility, Montes understands his role within a larger collective, striving to empower marginalized voices through photography as the artistic landscape evolves.

### **About ART IS BOND**

ART IS BOND. proudly stands as a premier contemporary art gallery and innovative project space nestled in the heart of Houston, Texas. With a steadfast commitment to amplifying and illuminating a diverse array of creative voices, narratives, and aesthetic expressions, our exhibitions, programming, and publications both challenge and expand the very fabric of art history and the future of art collecting.