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## Bibliography

# David Alfaro Siqueiros: Murals in Los Angeles

A Selected Bibliography  
Second Edition

Compiled and Edited by  
Valerie Greathouse and Leslie Rainer





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THE GETTY CONSERVATION INSTITUTE  
LOS ANGELES

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ISBN: 978-1-937433-32-1 (online resource)

ISBN: 978-1-937433-33-8 (print on demand)

Cover: Sculptural figure, detail of mural, *América Tropical*, by David Alfaro Siqueiros, 1932.

Photo: Leslie Rainer, ©2012, J. Paul Getty Trust; mural: © 2012, Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/Sociedad Mexicana de Autores de las Artes Plásticas (SOMAAP), Mexico City

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## Introduction to the Bibliography

During the period in 1932 when David Alfaro Siqueiros was in Los Angeles, he painted three, possibly four murals: *Street Meeting* at the Chouinard Art Institute; *América Tropical* at El Pueblo de Los Angeles; and *Portrait of Mexico Today* at a private residence in Pacific Palisades. A possible fourth mural was painted at the John Reed Club in Hollywood, but was largely undocumented and likely incomplete at the time of his departure. While in Los Angeles, Siqueiros discovered a number of new materials and technologies for painting large-scale murals. Always an innovator, this period of time was particularly rich in his career, and the work he did in Los Angeles laid the groundwork for his later murals in Mexico and South America.

As an integral component of the GCI's project to conserve *América Tropical*, a bibliography was compiled over the course of the project. This selected bibliography focuses on the murals painted by Siqueiros in Los Angeles in 1932 with additional references on materials and techniques used by Siqueiros, as relevant for context. It spans the time period from 1932, when Siqueiros came to Los Angeles, to 2012, when the conservation, protection and interpretation of the mural, *América Tropical*, was completed by the GCI and the City of Los Angeles.

The bibliography is divided into two sections. The first section is comprised of published references and unpublished manuscripts, letters and reports. These range from primary sources written by Siqueiros during and after his stay in Los Angeles, to scholarly articles related to his murals in Los Angeles, and a body of unpublished reports directly related to the research and work carried out on *América Tropical*.

In the second section, a chronology of news coverage from 1932 to 2014 is provided to illustrate the story of the mural and public reaction to it from the day the mural was unveiled, through the 1960s and 1970s when the mural was rediscovered by preservationists and artists of the Chicano mural movement, to the project of the GCI and the City of Los Angeles to conserve, protect, present, and interpret *América Tropical*, including the events surrounding the unveiling of the fully conserved mural, its shelter and viewing platform and the grand opening of the América Tropical Interpretive Center.





## CHAPTER 1

# A Selected Bibliography

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