

Mano Poderosa

Rosalie López

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Rosalie López is from the Harbor area of Los Angeles, California. She creates artwork that blends influences from her family and Chicana history with kitsch memorabilia, papel picado, and representations of Day of the Dead offerings. López has an MFA in printmaking from Indiana University and a BFA in graphic design and printmaking from CSU Long Beach.

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Mano Poderosa mixes traditional and contemporary art-making methods and references the iconic religious kitsch imagery of *La Mano Mas Poderosa* (The most powerful hand). The artwork is a progressive response to an earlier artwork I created called *Her Hands Remind Us*, which used an aged and weathered hand and referenced the milagro charm of the Heart in Hand. To show the resulting impact on the younger generations, I depict a sprouting plant coming from the center finger.

The artwork was created in two phases. First, the hand, a replica of my own hand, was printed at La Ceiba Gráfica (Coatepec, Veracruz, Mexico) by hand using a traditional Mexican marble lithography process. The cutout portions and three-dimensional components were then created at TEG (El Taller de Experimentación Gráfica), which is an experimental print lab in Mexico City.

The combination of old lithographic printing and new laser cutting happening in the artwork echoes the conversation happening between this reimagined interpretation of the traditional and familiar and the impact of elder generations on the younger generations.



Rosalie López, *Mano Poderosa (Pink)*, 2019. Lithograph with laser cutouts on handmade kozo paper, 19 × 24 in.