Sunday Morning II (left) and Friends in Freshness, by Narsiso Martinez

art selection and comment by Lil Copan in the November 20, 2019 issue



Photos by Michael Underwood. Courtesy of Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles.

Narsiso Martinez, an artist based in Long Beach, California, gathers discarded boxes and uses them to tell the stories of Latinx workers in agribusiness. Martinez, who was born in Oaxaca, Mexico, uses this medium to chart his own history as a fruit picker in Washington. His aim is to start conversations about labor, racial economics, and fair pay. "I intend for these drawings to be the platform for discussion about inequities, and to point out the unfortunate circumstances of some social groups, like the farmworkers, in contrast to the people who are profiting from those circumstances."