# **MICHAEL LUCERO** SCULPTURE 1976-1995

#### First Edition

© 1996 by the Trustees of the Mint Museum of Art, 2730 Randolph Road, Charlotte, NC 28207.

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system without permission in writing from the publisher.

Published in the United States by Hudson Hills Press, Inc., Suite 1308, 230 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10001-7704.

Distributed in the United States, its territories and possessions, Canada, Mexico, and Central and South America by National Book Network.

Distributed in the United Kingdom, Eire, and Europe by Art Books International Ltd.

Exclusive representation in Asia, Australia, and New Zealand by EM International.

Editor and Publisher: Paul Anbinder

Copy Editor: Renée A. Ramirez

Proofreader: Lydia Edwards

Indexer: Karla J. Knight

Designer: Abby Goldstein

Composition: Angela Taormina

Manufactured in Japan by Toppan Printing Company

Frontispiece: Peter Bellamy, Michael Lucero, Chelsea 1987, from the book The Artist Project: Portraits of the Real Art World/New York Artists 1981-1990. Photo © Peter Bellamy, 1987.

Cover illustration: Anthropomorphic Infant Form with Tutu in Stroller (New World Series), 1993. Collection of Donna Schneier Published on the occasion of the exhibition MICHAEL LUCERO: Sculpture 1976-1995 presented at the Mint Museum of Art.

#### EXHIBITION ITINERARY

MINT MUSEUM OF ART, Charlotte, North Carolina March 16 through June 9, 1996

American Craft Museum, New York October 31, 1996, through February 16, 1997

KEMPER MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART AND DESIGN, Kansas City, Missouri March 30 through July 6, 1997

RENWICK GALLERY OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, Washington, D.C. September 19, 1997, through January 4, 1998

CARNEGIE MUSEUM OF ART, Pittsburgh February 28 through May 24, 1998

MICHAEL LUCERO: Sculpture 1976-1995 and its national tour are sponsored by Philip Morris Companies Inc. Major support for the exhibition has also been provided by the Rockefeller Foundation, New York; the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; and the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CATALOGUING-IN-PUBLICATION DATA Leach, Mark Richard.

Michael Lucero : sculpture 1976–1995 / Mark Richard Leach and Barbara J. Bloemink ; with an essay by Lucy R. Lippard. – 1st ed.

p. cm.

Catalogue of a traveling exhibition first held at the Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, North Carolina, Mar. 16-June 9, 1996 and at four others through May 1998.

Includes biographical references and index.

ISBN 1-55595-127-9 (pbk. : alk. paper).

1. Lucero, Michael, 1953- - Exhibitions. I. Bloemink, Barbara J. II. Lippard, Lucy R. III. Mint Museum of Art. IV. Title. NB237.L82A4 1996 730'.92-dc20

95-43867 CIP

### SPONSOR STATEMENT

## MICHAEL LUCERO: Sculpture 1976-1995

**F** or the past twenty years, Michael Lucero has explored art and craft traditions and images from a variety of cultures, and with growing freedom and accomplishment he has combined them to create his own distinctive work. This exhibition is his first major survey, and it reveals the consistent sense of direction behind the artist's varied interests and influences, while capturing the evolution of a career in the middle of its course.

At Philip Morris, we have supported the arts for nearly forty years. We are especially interested in the kind of energetic, innovative work featured in this exhibition, because it shows us the world-and the worlds of art and culture-from a fresh perspective. We congratulate the Mint Museum of Art for initiating this exhibition, which is bound to be just as exciting and successful in New York, Kansas City, Washington, and Pittsburgh as it will be in Charlotte.

Michael Lucero's work is bold, astonishing, powerful-and fun. We hope you enjoy it.

**STEPHANIE FRENCH** Vice President, Corporate Contributions and Cultural Programs Philip Morris Companies Inc.