

# SPECIAL EVENTS



09.25.25

**SOUDI JIMÉNEZ**

**Culture, Identity, and Resilience:  
Taking a Look at the Migrant  
Experience in L.A.**



10.09.25

**AMADOUR**

**A Conversation with Artist Amadour**



10.15.25

**CONCRETE HOPE**

**Félix Quintana & Alkaid Ramirez  
in Conversation**



10.28.25

**KYLE PARKER**

**From Startup to Fruition:  
Improving Mental Health Through  
Culturally Competent Haircare**

## SOUDI JIMÉNEZ

### **Culture, Identity, and Resilience: Taking a Look at the Migrant Experience in L.A.**

*Honoring Latinx Heritage Month:* Author and award-winning journalist Soudi Jiménez will talk about L.A.'s many Latinx communities — including Salvadoran, Guatemalan, Oaxacan, and Peruvian populations — their resilience, and their fight for cultural recognition of their ethnic identity and contributions to the United States and its society. Jiménez recently published *Ecos migrantes* ("Migrant Echoes," Traveler Publishing House, 2025), has covered stories since 2012 on the Latinx community for the Los Angeles Times, and has received top awards from the National Association of Hispanic Publications and the Los Angeles Press Club. Sponsored by the SMC Associates, SMC Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, and the Spanish Club.

**Thu, September 25 | 11:15 a.m. | Free  
Humanities and Social Science (HSS) 104**

## AMADOUR

### **A Conversation with Artist Amadour**

*Honoring Latinx Heritage Month and LGBTQ+ History Month:* Multidisciplinary artist Amadour — an SMC and UCLA alum whose creative practice spans music, visual art, and writing — will present a unique look into a selection of their work and their artistic process and cross-disciplinary approach. A cofounder of Who Is Seen magazine, Amadour has exhibited at Kotaro Nukaga (Tokyo, Japan), Galería La Cometa (Bogotá, Colombia), FF Projects (San Pedro Garza García, Mexico), and Emma Scully Gallery (New York, USA). Their work has been featured in frieze, Artillery Magazine, and ARTnews Japan, and included in the permanent archive of the Getty Research Institute Library. Sponsored by the SMC Associates.

**Thu, October 9 | 11:15 a.m. | Free | Hybrid  
Online: see [smc.edu/events](https://smc.edu/events) for details  
On-campus: Theatre Arts, Main Stage**

## CONCRETE HOPE

### **Félix Quintana & Alkaid Ramirez in Conversation**

Erika Hirugami — the Curatorial Director of FotoSocal and Curator of the "Concrete Hope" exhibitions at SMC — will be joined by artists Félix Quintana and Alkaid Ramirez to talk about the personal, social, and cultural influences on their art. Hirugami is the Founder of CuratorLove and Co-founder of UNDOC+Collective. Sponsored by the SMC Associates and SMC Art Department.

**Wed, October 15 | 5 p.m. | Free  
Barrett Art Gallery at SMC Performing  
Arts Center**

### **Part of the "Concret Hope" Exhibition: Aydinaneth Ortiz & William Camargo in Conversation**

Aydinaneth Ortiz and William Camargo will discuss their socio-political photography practices. Sponsored by the SMC Global Citizenship.

Thu, November 6 | 2 p.m. | Free | Art 214

## KYLE PARKER

### **From Startup to Fruition: Improving Mental Health Through Culturally Competent Haircare**

ClipDart CEO Kyle Parker will talk about his effort to connect underserved communities with culturally competent barbers, and how the app he developed expanded into a flourishing business-to-business hair services company and a nonprofit providing mental wellness haircare nationwide. ClipDart grew out of Parker's personal battle with haircare inequity as a college student in rural Iowa, where barbers did not know how to properly cut Black hair. His organization collaborates with colleges, universities, homeless services, and senior centers to promote wellness, one haircut at a time. Sponsored by the SMC Associates, SMC Cosmetology Department, and SMC Communication and Media Studies Department.

**Tue, October 28 | 11:15 a.m. | Free  
Humanities and Social Science (HSS) 104**

♿ If you need an accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Center for Students with Disabilities at [dsps@smc.edu](mailto:dsps@smc.edu) or 310-434-4265, at least 5 business days in advance.

The Santa Monica College Associates is a community-based support group that brings outstanding speakers, performers, and special events to SMC to enhance student excellence. Associates members receive invitations to special receptions and advance notices of lectures. Annual Associates memberships are entirely tax-deductible. Call 310-434-4100 or visit [smc.edu/associates](https://smc.edu/associates) for more information.



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