

GREEN-WOOD

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UNDER A CANOPY OF MARIGOLDS, NEW YORKERS HONOR THEIR LOVED ONES AT GREEN-WOOD'S DÍA DE MUERTOS OFRENDA

Laura Anderson Barbata's Reposo y Recuerdo fills the Cemetery's Historic Chapel with hand-woven hammocks, a forest floor, and a community altar, on view October 9th–November 15th, with a press preview October 8th.



BROOKLYN, N.Y. [October 1, 2026] — Visitors to Green-Wood's annual Día de Muertos *ofrenda* can remember loved ones while reclining in a handwoven hammock, beneath a canopy of paper marigolds and *papel picado* (perforated paper banners). In *Reposo y Recuerdo* (*Rest and Remember*), artist Laura Anderson Barbata fills the Historic Chapel with nearly 200 papier-mâché *calaveras* (skulls) crafted and painted by artists in Chihuahua, Mexico, and members of the Brooklyn community. Visitors are invited to add memories of their own. The installation is on view daily, **10am–5pm, October 9th–November 15, 2026**, with a **press preview on Thursday, October 8th**.

"In Mexico, families scatter marigold petals from their domestic altar all the way out the door, so the spirits can follow their color and scent back home. Many also bring flowers, candles, and

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music to the cemetery and stay through the night beside the graves of those they love. To create an ofrenda inside a cemetery in Brooklyn is to honor both of these traditions in one place," said **Laura Anderson Barbata**.

The installation grows over time. Visitors are encouraged to participate by writing a memory or the name of a loved one on a colorful ribbon provided or leave a personal tribute on the altar. These individual remembrances will form a single shared work.

"Remembering someone we love should have a place in the daily life of our city," said **Meera Joshi, President of Green-Wood**. "At Green-Wood, that has been our work for nearly two centuries. Laura's ofrenda opens our Chapel to a tradition that invites people to spend time with their memories and share them with their neighbors. Every name added to this altar is someone a New Yorker wants the world to remember."

Celebrated in Mexico and parts of Latin America, Día de Muertos honors the departed through gatherings and ofrendas, or memorial altars. Each year, Green-Wood creates a large-scale community ofrenda in its Historic Chapel. Anderson Barbata's installation draws on the holiday's understanding of death as a continuing connection to those who came before us.

The ofrenda will also anchor Green-Wood's free, family-friendly **Day of the Dead Family Celebration on Monday, November 2nd, from 4 to 7pm**, featuring music, performances, crafts and hands-on activities exploring the holiday's history and traditions.

About the Artist

Born in Mexico City, Laura Anderson Barbata lives and works between New York and Mexico City. Since 1992, her transdisciplinary practice has included social and community-based projects in the Venezuelan Amazon, Trinidad and Tobago, Mexico, Norway and the United States.

Press Preview and Opening Reception

Thursday, October 8, 6–8pm

Historic Chapel, The Green-Wood Cemetery, 500 25th Street, Brooklyn

Laura Anderson Barbata (artist), Meera Joshi (Green-Wood's President), and Harry J. Weil (Green-Wood's Vice President of Public Programs and Education) will be available for interviews. High-resolution images are available on request. For RSVPs and interview requests, contact Daniela Ochoa-Bravo at dochoabravo@green-wood.com.

About Green-Wood

Founded in 1838, The Green-Wood Cemetery is as sprawling, diverse, and surprising as New York City itself. A National Historic Landmark spanning 478 acres in Brooklyn, Green-Wood is

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the permanent home of more than 580,000 people, many of whom left a lasting mark on the city and the nation. As one of the first expansive public green spaces in New York, Green-Wood helped inspire the creation of Central Park and Prospect Park, and that same spirit still draws people through its gates today. Each year, Green-Wood welcomes half a million visitors, provides educational tours to more than 10,000 students, and hosts public programs for over 30,000 attendees, making it one of the liveliest places in New York City. For more information, visit *green-wood.com*.