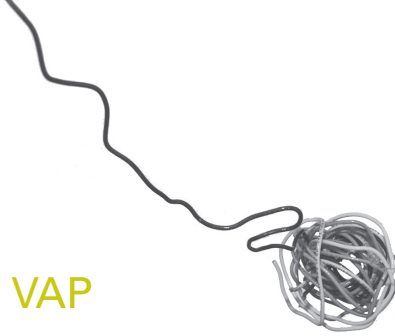


MIT Visual Arts Program

Give Me Shelter | Monday Nights @ VAP



# Carla Fernandez

## Stitching Communities

Mon 11/26/07  
7-9pm

Massachusetts  
Institute of Technology  
Visual Arts Program  
Department of Architecture

Bldg N51-337, 3rd floor,  
Joan Jonas  
Performance Hall  
265 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
For information call  
617-253-5229

Further information:  
[web.mit.edu/vap/](http://web.mit.edu/vap/)

Free and open to the public.

This event is presented in  
conjunction with courses  
4.381/4.366 *Give Me Shelter:  
Conditions of Living in  
Unstable Times*, taught by  
Professor Ute Meta Bauer and  
4.370/4.371 *Give Me Shelter:  
Body Wear*, taught by Visiting  
Associate Prof. Regina Moeller.

Carla Fernandez is the founder of Flora, a mobile workshop/fashion-laboratory that travels Mexico visiting indigenous communities and women co-ops creators of handmade textiles. Flora has developed a unique pedagogy where workshop participants communicate through design. After ten years of research, Carla Fernandez has collected and catalogued hundreds of garment designs that were in risk of extinction. Contrary to the kitsch stereotype that is exported about Mexico, ancient patterning is an incredible elaborate system of pleats, folds and seams to construct a vast array of attires using squares and rectangles only. This has been the source of inspiration to her own label that has been described as "a unique practice where tradition is not static and fashion is not ephemeral." Taller Flora runs its own fair trade network and a set of environmental policies as an initiative to foster responsible practices in fashion.

### Directions

The MIT Visual Arts Program is located above the MIT Museum. Enter through the grey door on Front Street and take the elevator to the third floor. Exit to your left and go down the ramp. The Joan Jonas Performance Hall is located on the right.

### By Public Transportation

Take the Red Line to Central Square. Walk four blocks along Massachusetts Avenue towards Boston and the Charles River, or take the #1 bus to the Front Street stop.

### Thanks

This lecture series has been made possible with a special grant by the Office of the Dean, School of Architecture and Planning, and it is a collaboration with the Latino and Latin American Art Forum at Harvard, supported by the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (DRCLAS) at Harvard University.

