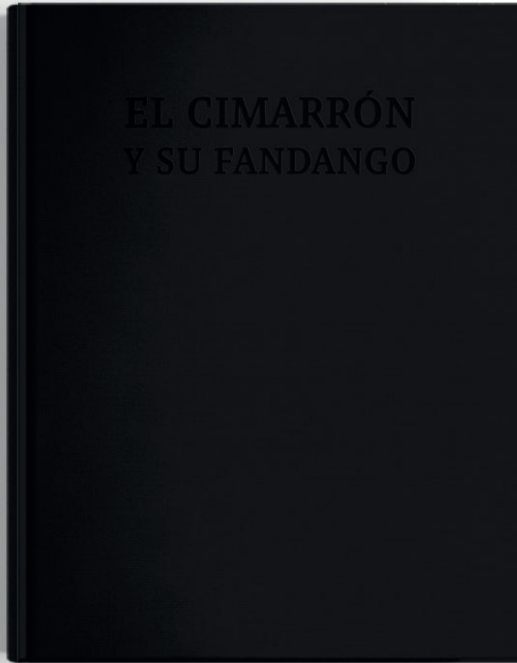




# EL CIMARRÓN Y SU FANDANGO

Mara Sánchez Renero



#### LIMITED EDITION

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### EL CIMARRÓN Y SU FANDANGO by Mara Sánchez Renero

*During the colonial period in the Americas, a "Cimarrón" was a Black fugitive slave who lived a free life in isolated corners of society.*

After independence, when slavery was abolished in Mexico, the Afro-descendant population began to group mainly in two parts of the Mexican territory: Veracruz and the Costa Chica. It was in this last one where I had my first encounter with Afro-descendant culture and where I was aware of its importance and invisibility in the history of Mexico; despite being recognized as the third root, it was not until 2015 that the process for its recognition within the constitution began.

Driven by after the first encounter I had with the community, I started the research that gave rise to this project, in which photography was the tool that allowed me to translate into images some historical elements that refer to the current construction of the identity of those who are called Afromexicans.

*El Cimarrón y su Fandango* speaks to us in an allegorical way of the past of a Black community and its journey through colonial history, its integration into the territory and its current sense of identity within it.

Mara is a Mexican photographer born and based in Mexico City. She studied photography in Barcelona (Spain), where she lived for 10 years. Interested in the instability of the human condition, she looks for places where she can create or reinvent a scenario. In her photography, we witness the dissolution of the constructed identity. By isolating men and women from their daily contexts to show them instead in a space of their imaginary construction, their mythical existence and thus to confront the uncertainty of human nature. Her work has been exhibited in various locations across Europe, USA, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America and Africa, including international photography fairs like: Basel Photo, Maco Photo Zone, Material Art Fair, San Francisco Photo, Arteba, Photo London and Scope Miami. Her work has received several accolades, notably in Arles in 2015 and from the IWPA in 2020. Mara's work has been published and reviewed by international critics, including CNN and The New York Times.

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