

[Open this email in your browser](#)

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | SANTIAGO

“Des-Cubre” Renca: Discovering and Uncovering Realities in one of Santiago’s Overlooked Boroughs

Documenting Covid-19’s Impact Through Pictures

The Santiago Center teamed up with the [Municipality of Renca](#) in Santiago, Chile, to launch the contest “Des-Cubre Renca” (which in Spanish has the double meaning of Dis-Cover and Un-cover) that, within the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, aimed to reflect via photographs the stories of those who live in the borough’s oftentimes unknown reality.

“We wanted to get to know the experiences, faces, homes and neighborhoods that have been made invisible by figures and statistics,” explained [Karen Ponichik](#), Director of Columbia’s Santiago Center. Renca, one of the 34 boroughs of Greater Santiago, has a population of 160,000, of which more than 77,000 live in vulnerable conditions. During the pandemic, Renca remained in total quarantine for 148 days in a row - one of the longest periods in Chile.

“In Renca, the effects of Covid-19 have caused havoc at all levels: social, economic, health. This contest was a good opportunity to open a space that reveals these struggles, while at the same time providing a cultural experience and rewarding the creativity and effort of those who participated,” noted Renca Mayor [Claudio Castro](#).

A total of 154 photographs were submitted by Renca’s own residents, framed within the “Renca Orgullosa” (“Proud Renca”) concept which looks to highlight the community’s heritage and people with their history of resilience and life in community.

The jury – comprised of [Pamela López](#), [Patricio Fernández](#) and [Paula Campos](#) - evaluated the message, originality, creativity and beauty of the submitted pictures and awarded:

First Place

Valentina Mora Pérez (Instagram: [@ayuwkiawun](#))
“*Después de la Ventana*”



"The apparently chaotic composition is organized by visually balancing the image of the cat, diagonally projected to the outdoors through a window, and the reflection of an old man in a side mirror, in which the spatiality of a room is only partially displayed." - Paula Campos

"A pause in time, a leisurely wait, a world that passes between the here and now of confinement and the beyond of the window and the screen. Neither hope nor despair: beauty." – Patricio Fernández

Second Place

William Barrueto Vargas (Instagram: @wllm.ph)
"Escalamos, bajaron las fuerzas, agachamos la vista"



"I like the depth in this photograph, not only on a visual level (with a composition that reveals different layers - from advertising to natural landscape and that of the two main characters) but also on the social level to which the photograph speaks." –

Pamela Lopez

"Two elderly people contemplating the hill in the background and the landscape, partially obstructed by the unfocused irruption of a mass crowned with an immense logo belonging to an institute of higher studies, which mark the contemporaneity of this registry, but that nevertheless, thanks to the attitude of those portrayed, the range of color and the blur cover the scene with a timeless atmosphere."

– Paula Campos

Third Place

Felipe Abdiel Epul Jiménez (Instagram: @felipe.abdiel)

"Autorretrato 1: Primera semana de pandemia"



“This photo, unlike the others, invents a world, playing on visual advertising: while advertising offers security, here everything is restlessness, intrigue, mystery. The subject could be making a bomb out of seemingly innocent ingredients.” – Patricio Fernández

“The character’s makeup and clothing, along with the gaze fixed on the camera and the aseptic way of donning a latex glove, provides witness to a defiant attitude that challenges the viewer.” – Paula Campos

Honorable Mentions



Camila Peñaloza Abayay - “A los pies del cerro 3”



Rodrigo Saavedra López - *"Evolución"*



Andrés Ferreira López - *"Viendo la libertad"*



María Verónica Carter Carter - *"Estoy mirando atrás y puedo ver mi vida entera"*



William Barrueto Vargas - *"No existe luz sin oscuridad, ni alegría sin dolor"*



Francisco Muñoz Latorre, *"Niños jugando en el cerro"*



Valentina Mora Pérez - "Sin brújula y sin puerto"

Subscribe to our Social Media!



Facebook



Twitter



Instagram



LinkedIn



Website

Our mailing address is:

Columbia Global Centers | Santiago
Av. Dag Hammarskjöld # 3269, First Floor.
Vitacura.
Santiago, Chile.
+56-222-283-600
santiago.cgc@columbia.edu



Copyright © 2016 Columbia University. All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)