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HE \LI\G\ART "This is a moment about the conjunction of art and AIDS—and that conjunction, from the cancellation of the Robert Mapplethorpe exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in 1989 until the present, has been very politicized; very fraught," says Jonathan David Katz, co-curator of the traveling exhibition that will stop here this month at the Alphawood Gallery, a temporary space. Titled Art AIDS America Chicago for its local iteration, the show will feature more than 140 artworks, adding Chicago artists to a roster that includes Keith Haring, Annie Leibovitz and Tino Rodriguez. Dec. 1-April 2, 2401 N. Halsted St., 773.687.7676, artaidsamericachicago.org – Kyle MacMillan



Jonathan David Katz calls Tino Rodriguez's (2010)—an oil on wood which draws on Mexican culture's greater acceptance of death, as exemplified by the Day of the Dead celebrationsone of the exhibition's most beautiful works