

## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



*the artist*  
*the sculpture*  
*the campaign*

Border Crossing: Cruzando el Rio Bravo  
 Luis Jiménez  
 1989  
 Fiberglass and urethane finish  
 127x34x54  
 Located in the [Art on Campus Collection at Iowa State University](#).

Working Class Heroes, Images from the Popular Culture  
 Michael Brenson, contributing essayist

"(The) walking man, with his wife on his shoulders sheltering their child, suggests St. Christopher, the Christian saint who carried Christ on his shoulders across a river and then devoted himself to saving, in a similar fashion, the poor and weak."

This sculpture commemorates hundreds of thousands of Mexicans who have responded to the pull of the southwest United States, including Jiménez's father who entered the United States in 1924. This image of stamina and solidarity is a celebration of the immigrant and Chicano family as a unit that is at once ceremonial totem pole, family tree, and infinitely adaptable home.



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