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### Beckman 202

La Virgen Guadalupe is one of the most important and widely recognizable figures in Chicano/a culture. For Chicano/as she represents resistance, power, and unity for these historically marginalized peoples as she protects their culture against hegemonic western dominance. Chicana feminists, however, view her as a source of oppression- as the perpetrator of the virgin whore binary imposed by Spanish colonizers and continued by a machista and patriarchal culture. My research looks at how Chicana feminists work to decolonize la Virgen back to her indigenous roots in order to break such misogynistic binaries. Specifically, I look at two Chicana feminist artists- Sandra Cisneros and Alma López- who are using their artwork to radicalize la Virgen back to her liberating, indigenous origins.