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Tigers and Jaguars: LA's Asian-Latino Art Fusion
June 30 through October 29, 2006

The pioneering exhibition ***Tigers and Jaguars: LA's Asian-Latino Art Fusion*** opens on June 30, 2006 at the Craft and Folk Art Museum (CAFAM). Developed in collaboration with the Latino Museum of History, Art and Culture and CAFAM, ***Tigers and Jaguars*** examines the relationship and interaction between Asian and Latino communities through the expression of art. This exhibition will feature local artists such as Chaz Bojorquez, Richard Duardo and Bari Kumar, who have forged this uniquely Los Angeles-based phenomenon.

Tigers and Jaguars explores the evolution of cross-cultural, grass-roots experiences that occur between Latino and Asian communities. The artists included in this exhibition do not forsake their cultural traditions. Rather, they explore the meshing of ethnicity in development of visual hybrids by intermingling symbols and iconography from both Asian and Latino cultures. Curator Kathy Mas-Gallegos points out, "In an increasingly globalized world, these artists share a desire to bridge cultural borders and to create new multicultural modes of artistic expression."

The artists exhibited include a self-taught street tagger as well as a university-trained fine artist influenced by Renaissance symmetry. Artist Richard Duardo creates prints that span a visual library from Mexican popular culture to Japanese portraiture. Chaz Bojorquez began his artistic trajectory as a graffiti artist in the streets and riverbeds of Los Angeles, and his signature style is influenced both by West Coast "Cholo" graffiti and by Asian calligraphy. Painter Bari Kumar,

born in India, creates works that combine images sampled from newspaper headlines, street art, art history, and the artist's personal travels. Exhibition artists also include AsyIm, Andres Montoya, Linda Vallejo, Gerald De Jesus, Clemant Hanami, Dave Kawano, Shizu Saldamando, Felipe Smith, Ruben Ortiz Torrez, and Ruben Guevara.

“CAFAM is excited to host this unique exhibition that combines the sensibilities of two striking cultural communities. The resulting artwork represents the influence of diversity that occurs daily in our city, and this is an important exhibition for all Angelenos to see,” says Maryna Hrushetska, Director of CAFAM.

Related programming

Saturday, September 16, 6pm

Artists' Walk

Join Tigers and Jaguars Artists as they discuss the creative fusion of Asian and Latino cultures and how it lives in their own work. Artists to appear include Chaz Bojorquez, Richard Duardo, Rubén Guevara, Clement Hanami, Dave Kawano, Bari Kumar, Andres Montoya, and Linda Vallejo. Light refreshments will be served.

--Free with the cost of Museum Admission

Thursday, September 28, 7pm

Tigers and Jaguars: A Poetry Event

A dynamic evening of contemporary poetry with emerging and established Los Angeles artists including Sesshu Foster, Rubén Funkahuatl Guevara, Marisela Norte, and introducing Rocio Carlos, John Chang, Irene Soriano. Light refreshments and drinks will be served.

--\$15/\$10 CAFAM members

About Kathy Mas-Gallegos

Kathy Mas-Gallegos is the owner of the Avenue 50 Studio, Inc., a non-profit art gallery formed to support the cultural vitality of the Mexican and Central American community of Highland Park. It is the Avenue 50 Studio's objective to provide an ongoing structure to enhance public recognition and appreciation of our multicultural art community, and engender support for visual artists, writers and poets. Kathy is also a visual artist, working in pastels, etching and photography. She has exhibited for over 15 years throughout Los Angeles, Mexico and Honduras.

About The Latino Museum of History, Art and Culture

Founded in the early 1990s, The Latino Museum of History, Art and Culture has served the Latino community through commemorative exhibitions of artists such as Paul Sierra, Patria Portatil and Cesar Chavez. Having lost its building through a City eminent domain action, the Latino Museum has been without its own site for over 3 years. Within the next 12 months, the Latino Museum will have a permanent space at the Los Angeles Theater Center when renovations are completed in mid-2007. Until then, the museum is proud to partner with five cultural institutions to present cutting edge performances and exhibitions, including the collaboration with CAFAM to exhibit *Tigers & Jaguars: LA's Asian-Latino Art Phenomenon*.

About The Craft and Folk Art Museum

The Craft and Folk Art Museum (CAFAM) is a Los Angeles nonprofit cultural arts organization dedicated to the public presentation and preservation of folk arts and contemporary craft. Founded in 1965, originally as "The Egg and The Eye" by the late Edith Wyle, who passionately promoted traditional artisans and the virtue of handmade art the Museum opened in 1973. As a local Museum with global reach, CAFAM seeks to promote international goodwill and global understanding among its citizens. The Museum works to preserve and strengthen the folk culture of our community based on its belief that the quality of urban life is directly related to the vitality and diversity of viewpoints and traditions.

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High and low-resolution digital images are available upon request.

Museum Information:

Craft and Folk Art Museum

5814 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90036

Tel: 323-937-4230 / www.cafam.org

Museum Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 11 am – 5 pm

Thursday 11 am – 7 pm

Saturday and Sunday 12 – 6 pm

Museum Admission:

General \$5.00 / Students and Seniors 3.00

Members and Children under 12 Free / Free 1st Wednesday of month