

South Texas College Library and the Office of Public Relations and Marketing present twenty-seven works of art from the college's Permanent Art Collection in the Pecan Campus Building A Atrium.

Curated by STC's Coordinator of Community Relations, Francisco Perez, this collection includes paintings, printmaking pieces, ceramics, photography, and sculptures and thematically highlights local customs, arts, cuisine, architecture, and people.

STC's Library Art Gallery Program organizes exhibitions and educational programs to engage student understanding of art and its role in culture, support the academic curriculum, and inspire continued education through direct engagement with artists, scholars, and original works of art.

For more information, contact STC Library Art Gallery Coordinator Gina Otvos at gotvos@southtexascollege.edu or visit library.southtexascollege.edu/lag.

Philip S. Field (1941 – 2016)

Goodies, The Grand Opening, The Sacrifice,
Inkjet prints on paper, 19 x 24 in., 2007.

MFA Painting Rhode Island School of Design

Philip Field originally from Brooklyn, NY, taught painting, printmaking and drawing in his 50 years as a professor at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. The prints in the collection are part of his *Daily Diary* series that surrealistically portray his life and family: his wife as a red creature named Wrathhuesos, himself as a bear figure, and various other symbols of people and objects in their life. His work embraces the transition from traditional painting to digital art. Field mentored and taught several generations of valley painters and artists.



Benjamin P. Valera (b. 1955 Brooklyn, USA)

Chupacabra Hunters
Acrylic on Canvas, 48 x 56.5 in., 2010.

Benjamin Valera paints visual reflections of his own experiences through his unique style of dots and patterns, oftentimes simply in black and white. Valera moved to the Rio Grande Valley in 2004 where he found a muse in his surroundings and began incorporating border iconography in his work. His work balances a traditional and modern outlook on local culture.



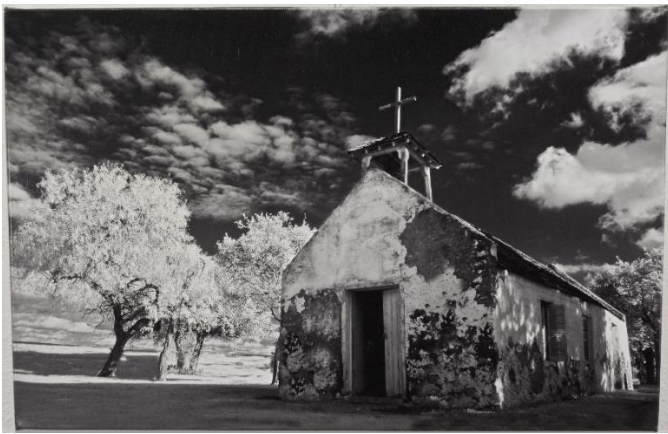


Juan A. Lozano Garza

Puertas y Ventanas

Photographs, 18 x 24 in., 2012.

Photographer Juan A. Garza Lozano was born and raised in Monterey, Mexico and works in advertising. This exhibit presents a collection of photographs of doors and windows, or portals that have garnered the artist's attention over the years. Bold color, graphic shapes, textures and details are seen in the everyday objects that begin to resemble modern abstract paintings. Lozano has the natural ability of finding the unique charm that exists within our urban world.



Roel Guerra

Guerrero, La Lomita, La Noche, Entre Chaparros

Digital photography printed on canvas, 20 x 30.5 in., 30.4 x 20 in., 19.5 x 24.5 in., 19.5 x 30 in., 2012.

Guerra specializes in photographing subjects found in South Texas and Mexico. His work portrays a range of scenery, from ancient rustic architecture to dusty valley landscapes. Since purchasing his first camera in the late 1970s, he has spent all of his free time learning as much as possible about the art of photography. He embraces the dramatic effect his photographs achieve when using an infrared Fuji camera.



Coco Rico

Memoria de Mexico

Ink/Prisma lithograph on paper, 11 x 14 in., 2016.

BFA Purdue Indianapolis, IN

MFA Braniff Graduate School – University of Dallas

Socorro Rico, better known as "Coco," uses visual metaphors to explore relationships and experiences of her past. These symbolic images recall the stories of her parents and childhood experiences that impact her identity.



Imanol Miranda

Don Santos

C-type print, black and white photograph, 8 x 12 in., 2013.

BFA University of Texas Pan-American

Imanol Miranda was born in Mexico City and moved to the United States as a teenager. Miranda's work is inspired by the border town and documents aspects of the Mexican-American culture through photography. His book, "Life in the Valley" displayed a series of photographs depicting life and culture in the upper Rio Grande Valley during 2012 and 2013.



Rosendo Sandoval

Vereda

Oil on canvas, 24 x 30 in., 2015.

MFA Texas A&M University – Kingsville

MFA University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Moving to the United States when he was 14 years old, Sandoval draws from his experience and the culture across the unique region of Northern Mexico and Southern Texas, to create his semi-realistic, romantic, largescale painting-style.



Rigoberto Gonzalez

Cielo Azul, Cielo Nublado

Screen-print, 22 x 30 in., 2016.

MFA New York Academy of Art

Rigoberto A. Gonzalez was born in Reynosa Tamaulipas, Mexico, in 1973 and currently resides in Edinburg, Texas. He teaches art at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Rich in realism, Gonzalez's work parallels 16th Century Baroque style with themes around the U.S. Mexico border and the families within the area. Gonzalez's work has been exhibited by the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, among many others.



Tina Fuentes

La Fruta de Mi Vida

Silk screen, 24 x 24 in., 2008.

BFA and MFA at North Texas

Tina Fuentes was born in San Angelo and raised in Odessa, Texas. She is a retired professor within the School of Art at Texas Tech University. In recent years, her work has embraced and integrated illusions of space inspired by land/space that exist in the South Plains of West Texas. These artistic engagements of geographical/atmospheric phenomena have led to a broadening interest in the vastness of the arid spaces of the desert corridor that extends beyond the boundaries of West Texas.



Conrado Gonzalez

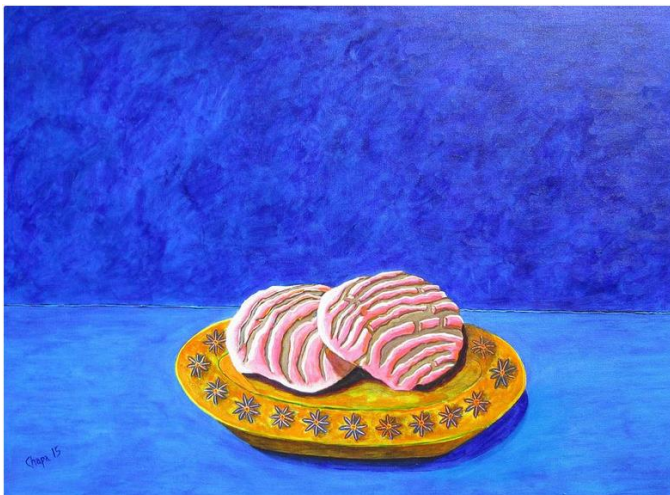
This Place

35mm color negative, 11 x 14 in., 2017.

BFA University of Texas-Austin

MFA University of Texas at Brownsville

Conrado Gonzalez is Brownsville-based and high school teacher. He says, "Light is king in photography, but without the emotional, story-telling aspect of a picture, even light tends to become devoid of any interest."



Manny Chapa

Pan Dulce Azul

Acrylic on Canvas, 30 x 40 x 2 in., 2015.

BFA Texas A&M Corpus Christi

Manny Chapa creates paintings that speak on the beauty that exists within his Mexican heritage. His process includes observing the subject and translating it onto his canvas with detailed brushstrokes that tell a story. With every finished artwork, Manny conveys life, environment, traditions and the feeling of family. The challenge, he says, is to not let these emotions slip away with thought but to capture them in all their glory.



Tracey Davis

Love Letters

Micro-Mosaic Shrine, seashells, coral, Swarovski crystals, santo, fabric, metal, paper. 21" H x 11.5" W x 5" D. 2009.

After suffering a stroke, in good health and at age 28, while giving birth to her second son, Tracey's mind became flooded with all kinds of artistic ideas, in various mediums. Tracey had no formal training, but she made her ideas a reality. She was always fascinated with mosaics, and as a long-time collector of vintage European prayer cards, she chose to make mosaics featuring these religious themes, creating Petite Sacre Mosaiques.

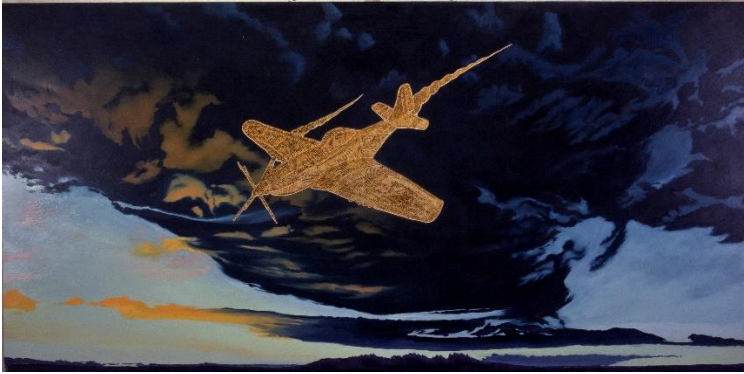
Richard Armendariz

Building Up Speed Now Even the Bloodhounds Can't Catch Me, Oil and acrylic on carved and burned birch plywood, 48 x 24 in., 2009.

BFA University of Texas - San Antonio

MFA University of Colorado - Boulder

Ricky Armendariz (b. 1969, El Paso, Texas) was raised on the U.S.-Mexico border, a region that heavily influenced his artistic, aesthetic, and conceptual ideas. Images that have cultural, biographical and art historical references are carved and burned into the surface of the paintings, drawings, and woodblocks. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from The University of Texas at San Antonio (1995), and his Master of Fine Arts from the University of Colorado at Boulder (1999). Armendariz is currently a Professor of Art at The University of Texas at San Antonio.



Jenelle Esparza

Si La Tierra Pudiera Hablar

Archival pigment print, 21 x 45 in., 2016.

Lucre

Raw cotton fiber, cotton paper, earth. 2.61 x 6.41 in. 2017.

BFA University of Texas - San Antonio

Jenelle Esparza is an interdisciplinary artist born in the coastal city of Corpus Christi, TX, in 1985. Esparza examines the lesser-known history of cotton and labor in South Texas through photography and textiles and incorporates concepts of body movement, history, gender, identity, culture, and race. Esparza is co-owner of Presa House Gallery and an educator at the McNay Museum in San Antonio.





Joe Peña

Red Shirt, Late Visit

Oil on Panel, 8 x 16 in., 2017.

BFA Corpus Christi State University

MFA Texas A&M – Corpus Christi

Born and raised in Texas, Peña received his BFA from Corpus Christi State University in 1993. Shortly after, he moved to NYC, worked in galleries, strengthened his studio practices with private painting and drawing classes. After ten years on the east coast, he finally made his return and realized how distinctive and captivating Texas was. Joe Peña is now a painting professor at Texas A&M – Corpus Christi and paints South Texas Eateries like taco trucks in the late-night urban landscape. Peña is in numerous collections, including Cheech Marin's prominent Chicano Art collection.

Olga Alanis

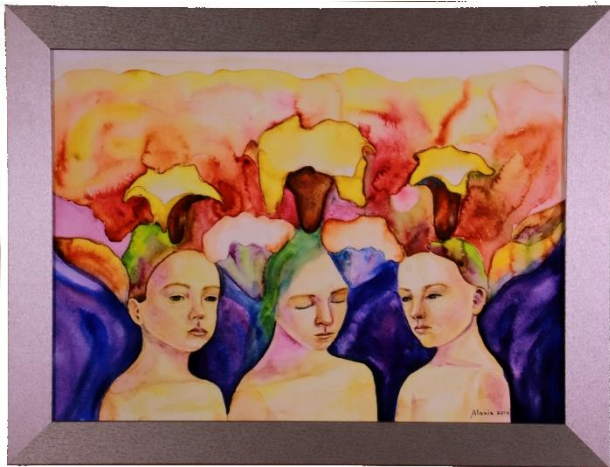
Ecology of Mind

Digital Print of watercolor painting, 18 x 24 in., 2014.

AA South Texas College

BFA University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

MFA University of Texas Rio Grande Valley



Olga Alanis was born in the Rio Grande Valley and raised in Monterrey, visiting the RGV on her summer and spring breaks. Alanis began her instruction as a child with an orthodox monk, Isaac, who trained her in Byzantine Icon painting. Alanis' art has been shown in many places, including the Metropolitan Museum in Monterrey and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Alanis graduated with her associate's degree from South Texas College and is now back as a professor in the Art department after many years as a successful independent artist and completing her MFA at UTRGV.



Benjie Heu

In His Place

Cone 6 stoneware, slips and glaze, 11 x 10 x 9 in., 2009.

BFA in Art University of Montevallo in Montevallo, AL

Post-Bac in Ceramics, University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth, MA

MFA in Ceramics, Ohio University in Athens, OH

The ceramics of Benjie Heu express a personal narrative with the most outlandish adventures accounted with an eye fixed on the bare essentials. Battles against time, against the obstacles that prevent the fulfillment of desire or the repossession of something cherished but lost are the themes that inspire him. Revealing truth and humor in the face of horror and the seemingly absurd is his answer. Benjie Heu is Professor of Ceramics in at Southeast Missouri State University. His artwork is exhibited nationally and internationally in juried, invitational, and solo exhibitions.



Anthony Rivera

Elvis

Acrylic on Canvas 5 x 4 ft., 2014.

Born in 1973, Anthony Rivera is a self-taught autistic artist whose work is inspired by music, resulting in vibrant abstract expressions. Each song is used as the title's muse and includes musicians like Willy Nelson, Elvis, Vicente Fernandez, BB King, Little Joe y La Familia, Metallica, and Julio Iglesias.



Luis Corpus

Untitled

Handmade charcoal & river water on paper, 19 x 26 in., 2017.

MFA Texas A&M – Corpus Christi

Seeking to converge identity with origin, Luis Corpus utilizes charred branches and water from the Rio Grande to depict the energy and positivity of Rio Grande Valley youth through portraiture. Born in Corpus Christi to undocumented immigrants, Luis is utilizing his Art to ponder questions concerning culture, class, and status. Luis graduated in 2009 from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi with a Master's degree in Studio Art, and is currently working as an Art instructor at South Texas College. Prior to his work as an Art educator, Luis was in the United States Marine Corps.



Hideo Mabuchi

Flask

Wood-Fired Stoneware - Ceramic, 6 x 4.5 x 3.5 in., 2020.

Ph.D. in Physics, California Institute of Technology

A. B. in Physics, Magna Cum Laude, Princeton University

Hideo Mabuchi works mainly in clay (wood-fired stoneware) and fiber (hand-woven and dyed textiles). He aims to create compelling artwork with traditional craft processes, guided by a materiality-driven aesthetic and a desire to let technique and serendipity lead while ideas emerge and manifest in the final stages of making. An academic by profession, he wonders what it is to be a maker, researcher, scholar, and teacher all at once rather than by turns. His overarching practice explores this question in the studio, laboratory, library, and classroom. Mabuchi is a Professor of Applied Physics at Stanford University.





Carmen Lomas Garza

Cumpleaños de Lala y Tudi; Empanadas

Digital print on cotton paper, 35 x 44.5 in., 2003; 24 x 31.5 in., 2010.

BS Texas A&M University (Formerly Texas A&I)

ME Juarez-Lincoln/ Antioch Graduate School

MA San Francisco State University

Carmen Lomas Garza was born in Kingsville, Texas, in 1948. Inspired by her parent's activism with the American G.I. Forum, Garza joined the Chicano Movement of the 1960s and 1970s. After receiving her M.A. in 1981, Garza began working full-time as a self-employed artist. Her images are seen in textbooks and museums, and her children's books are collected worldwide. "The Chicano movement inspired me to concentrate on our everyday lives based on my memories and experiences in South Texas. I saw the need for art that would elicit recognition and appreciation among Mexican Americans and at the same time serve as a source of education for others not familiar with our culture." – CLG



Carl Block

Untitled

Unglazed ceramic, 2010.

BFA University of North Texas

Block works in face jugs, a Southern folk art tradition to. His pieces are colorful and wild with many eyes and big teeth and horns.

Among Block's vast accomplishments, his work is featured in permanent art collections including the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., Rice University, The University of Houston, and The Chinati Foundation.