

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Enrique Chagoya: Surviving Paradise/Sobreviviendo el Paraíso

February 12 to April 16, 2011

GATEHOUSE GALLERY HOURS: *Wednesday – Saturday, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM.*
Visit www.dirosaart.org for information about tours of di Rosa.

OPENING RECEPTION: Saturday, February 19, 2011, 6 – 8 PM
Members' Preview 5 – 6 PM

ARTIST TALK: Thursday, March 10, 7 PM

NAPA, CA – **di Rosa** is pleased to present a solo exhibition by internationally-renowned Bay Area artist Enrique Chagoya from February 12 to April 16, 2011. ***Surviving Paradise/Sobreviviendo el Paraíso*** features significant new work and a selection of previous pieces by the artist highlighting several themes that he has explored throughout his artistic career: immigration, colonization, political struggle, economics and cultural appropriation. Whether addressing the foibles of politicians, the burdens of economic collapse, global warming, or irrational fear of immigrants, Chagoya brings an analytical and often darkly humorous perspective to bear on the world around us.



Enrique Chagoya, *Too Big*, 2009

“Paradise” as a critical lens has been a preoccupation of Chagoya’s throughout his artistic career. As di Rosa curator Robert Wuilfe writes, “The Paradise we see in Chagoya’s work springs not from an untouched pastoral utopia, but rather represents the strivings, obligations and impositions of complex global economic and political forces.” Through masterful drawings, prints, books, and sculptural objects included in the exhibition, Chagoya forces us to confront a Paradise that is increasingly heralded by a universe of product logos, standardized pop-culture, and purveyors of adjustable rate mortgages.

Chagoya is a master of appropriation, creating a complicated and satirical juxtaposition of narratives that destabilizes the viewer’s point of view. Without preaching or overtly pushing any agenda other than sanity, Chagoya encourages us to surrender the luxury of a single perspective. His ongoing project of “reverse anthropology”—in which he places the symbols of a dominant American culture into a visual context heavily influenced by pre-Columbian visual language—asks us to reexamine the costs and legacies of an often absurd and inhumane world.

Enrique Chagoya was born in Mexico City in 1953. He immigrated to the United States in the late 1970s and graduated with a B.F.A. from the San Francisco Art Institute, then went on to receive an M.A. and an M.F.A. from the University of California at Berkeley. Since 1995, Chagoya has been teaching printmaking at Stanford University. He is a prolific artist whose works hang in some of the nation's most esteemed galleries, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Los Angeles County Museum.

ABOUT DI ROSA

Located on 217 extraordinarily beautiful acres in the Carneros Region of southern Napa Valley, di Rosa is a place that provokes the imagination and artistic spirit of our time in an extraordinary landscape, through celebration of the art and artists of the Bay Area. The renowned di Rosa collection covers more than half a century of work from many noted and distinguished artists, attracting thousands of visitors annually for exhibitions, tours, lectures, and family events.

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