



SANTA BARBARA  
CONTEMPORARY ARTS FORUM

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***Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum announces a grant from the Fund for Santa Barbara for *Pláticas en Español*, a new series of six conversations featuring Latino artists to educate and unite Latino communities.***



Judith Baca  
Photo: Stanford Institute for  
Diversity in the Arts

SANTA BARBARA-Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum is pleased to announce the receipt of a generous grant from the Fund for Santa Barbara towards ***Pláticas en Español***, a new bilingual series of Latino focused programming.

Programmed by Lead Educator Gerardo Ayala and CAF Executive Director Miki Garcia, ***Pláticas en Español*** consists of six conversations featuring Latino artists, musicians, activists, and professors in an effort to educate and unite Latino communities through the discussion of challenging and inspiring issues relating to the arts and culture of our time.

The key objective of ***Pláticas en Español*** is to expand our Spanish-speaking audience by offering bilingual arts programming. In an effort to galvanize an appreciation for Latino arts, culture, history. CAF provides accessible bilingual and Latino focused programming, Spanish-speaking tours of current exhibitions, and knowledgeable speakers on a consistent and free of charge basis. The guest speakers and performers scheduled for the ***Pláticas en Español*** represent a wide range of individuals hailing from various ethnic, political, geographic backgrounds and perspectives - portraying the heterogeneous nature that is the Latino community in California and the U.S.

***Pláticas en Español***Schedule (Date and Speaker subject to change):

• **August 25, 2007: 4-6 PM**

Gregorio Luke, *Director of Museum of Latin American Art, Long Beach*  
Discussing Modern Mexican Muralists: Jose Clemente Orozco, David Alfaro Siqueiros, and Diego Rivera.

• **October 13, 2007: 4-6 PM**

Judith Baca, *Los Angeles based Visual Artist and Leading Muralist*  
Discussing Chicano art, muralism, and public art projects in California.

• **December 2, 2007: 4-6 PM**

Manuel Unzueta, *Artist, Professor of Chicano Studies, Santa Barbara City College*  
Rafael Perea de la Cabada, *Artist, Professor of Art Studio, Santa Barbara City College*  
Discussing their different artistic practices in conversation with Gerardo Ayala.

• **January 2008 (Date TBA)**

Cristina Venegas, *Professor of Film Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara*



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Discussing Latin American and Latino film, media, and digital technologies.

- **February 2008 (Date TBA)**

Dr. Jose Manuel Valenzuela, *Leading Scholar of the U.S.-Mexico Border, Tijuana, MX*

Discussing hybrid manifestations of music, popular culture, and youth identity on the U.S.-Mexico border.

- **March 2008 (Date TBA)**

Martha Gonzalez and Quetzal Florez, *Members of the Revolutionary Chicano Rock Group Quetzal*  
Performance and lecture by Martha Gonzalez and Quetzal Flores of Quetzal, the LA-based, socially conscious, and cross-cultural Chicano rock band.

CAF plans to partner with local community media outlets, foundations and non-profit organizations, therefore becoming a catalyst for other Santa Barbara area institutions to acknowledge the importance of Spanish language programming on a community-wide level. This grant award directly helps cover labor, materials and supplies, press and marketing, lead educator, translator, and speaker honoraria and accommodations, documentation, and organizational costs pertaining to all six *Pláticas en Español* programs.

Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum is non-profit, non-collecting alternative art space dedicated to the exhibition, education, and cultivation of the arts of our time. Celebrating its 31st Anniversary in 2007-2008, CAF is the premier venue for contemporary art between Los Angeles and San Francisco, presenting 15-18 exhibitions annually. *Pláticas en Español* reflects the CAF mission to sustain and encourage contemporary art and artists ensuring that creative expression and appreciation flourishes in and beyond the community we serve.

Images available upon request. For more information contact Kami Shallenberger, at 805.966.5373 ext 104 or go online to [www.sbcaf.org](http://www.sbcaf.org).