

# Ruiz-Healy Art™

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 21, 2008

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### **‘International Exposure: Looking at Contemporary Photography’ Provides Viewers a Range of Contemporary Photo Techniques** **17 international artists display works from Sept. 4-30** **at San Antonio International Center as part of FotoseptiembreUSA**

Peruvian-born artist Cecilia Paredes has an interesting technique, which she calls “photo-performance.” She uses it in her self-portraits that allude to her connection to nature. For example, in “Magnolia Landscape,” she turns her back to the camera while standing against a red wall of painted pink magnolias.

Although it appears the magnolias that cover her bare back have been digitally placed there, it is not the case.

“She stages the photograph by having her assistant stand in for her, sets everything up the way she wants it, and then she has body paint applied to her,” says Patricia Ruiz-Healy, curator of “International Exposure: Looking at Contemporary Photography.”

Paredes is one of 17 local and international artists who exhibit works in “International Exposure: Looking at Contemporary Photography,” which runs from Sept. 4-30 at the City of San Antonio International Center, 203 S. St. Mary’s St. **An opening reception is from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4 at the center. Four of the artists will be available for interviews at 5 p.m.**

The idea for the exhibit came about, Ruiz-Healy says, because of her interest in wanting to create an awareness of photography, as well as the different styles and techniques, as art to the public.

“We wanted a very broad look from the artists and an international look since we’re hosting the exhibit in the International Center,” she says. “We wanted our theme to be an international take on photography and what people are doing with photography in different methods.”

Many of the participating artists hail from Latin America, including: Graciela Iturbide, México; Alfredo De Stéfano, México; Cristina Kahlo, México; Sergio Fasola, Argentina; Marifer Barrero, México; Helena Neme, Uruguay; Cristina Fresca, Argentina; Juan Castañeda, México; Yohanna Roa, Colombia; and Silvana Blasbalg, Argentina.

Other artists are: Stella Sidi of Bulgaria, who works in Argentina; Jeffrey Mongrain of Minnesota, who resides in New York; and Hugo Tillman of Great Britain, who lives in New York. Three San Antonio artists include Arturo Almeida, Mia Baxter and Luisa A. Wheeler.

Ruiz-Healy says viewers will have an opportunity to learn and appreciate the creative styles and techniques of each artist.

Sergio Fasola, for instance, shoots analog photos and then paints some sections with a digital palette as he does in “Channel N5,” depicting Marilyn Monroe as a Madonna, holding a bouquet of roses. A tiny angel stands to her left, while a bottle of the actress’ favorite perfume is encased in a small oval frame to her right. Graciela Iturbide, meanwhile, uses traditional black-and-white film and gelatin silver prints in “Mujer Angel,” in which the viewer sees a veiled woman dressed in a flowing gown walking into the desert carrying a boom box.

“We have found that these artists are not doing the same thing,” Ruiz-Healy says. “They are working in different methods and mediums, and you can interpret photography in so many different ways.”

“International Exposure: Looking at Contemporary Photography” is presented by Ruiz-Healy Art at the International Center with the support of Casa de Nuevo Leon in San Antonio.

*Ruiz-Healy Art deals in modern and contemporary works of Latin American art – painting, sculpture, photography and works on paper. The studio allows clients to see works of art in a domestic setting rather than the “white box” often associated with contemporary display. The gallery works by appointment only. For more information, call (210) 804-2219 or visit [www.ruizhealyart.com](http://www.ruizhealyart.com).*

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