



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Latin Network for the Visual Arts  
Showcases Permanent Collection at Connecticut College**

NEW LONDON, Connecticut (January 23, 2012) – The Latin Network for the Visual Arts presents Contemporary Art from the Latin World at the Charles E. Shain Library at Connecticut College.

The exhibit features 16 pieces of art – paintings, sculpture, photography and cut-drawings – from the LNVA’s permanent collection, along with folk art from private collectors and books from the Shain Library collections.

The exhibit officially opens Jan. 23, as students return to classes, followed by a Feb. 9 reception featuring a bi-lingual talk by LNVA President Gastón O. Daumy and Curator Julia Pavone. The reception will be at 4:15 p.m. in the Chu Room on the library’s first floor.

The exhibit showcases work from the Latin World, including artists from Puerto Rico, Cuba, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, Honduras, Spain, Mexico and the United States.

The Gales Ferry-based LNVA ([www.lnva.us](http://www.lnva.us)) is a non-profit organization with the mission of enriching the community through exposure to contemporary art from countries in which people speak Romance languages.

Connecticut College’s Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity, the History Department and the Friends of the Library helped organize the exhibit, which runs through March 9 and is open to the public. For library hours and directions, follow this link:  
<http://www.conncoll.edu/is/10318.htm>

(more)

Pavone, who also is curator/director of the Alexey von Schlippe Gallery of Art, said the show includes every imaginable style, from representational to abstract to non-representational work.

“The work we have is so bold and so noticeable. We feel that it’s not only going to speak to students interested in art, but in Spanish language, history and English literature.”

Pavone said one of her favorites of the exhibit is a trio of digital photographs by Jessica Rosario, born in the United States with roots in Puerto Rico.

“They are completely fascinating and so surreal. [The artist] used herself and changed the size and shape to look odd. I thought they told a whole story in just looking at it.”

Regarding a dog sculpture by Alex Galo of Honduras, Pavone said some find it hard to look at because the animal looks sickly; however, she said, it is a powerful comment on the culture in which you see starving dogs among people who have little to eat.

Benjamin Panciera, Connecticut College’s director of special collections, commented, “We at the Charles E. Shain Library are excited to provide a venue to show items from the collection of the LNVA, as well as to highlight some of our own materials featuring contemporary art from the Latin World. This will be an excellent opportunity to expose our students to some of the resources available to them, both on our campus and in our community.”

Latin Network’s Daumy, who heads the organization with his wife, Mimi, said the LNVA is honored to share its art collection with the Shain Library.

“Through the exhibit, the LNVA wants to provide students, faculty and community members at large with a small sample of the type of contemporary art that will be presented at the Latin Views 2012 biennial exhibit at the Alexey von Schlippe Gallery of Art in September. The LNVA

hopes that the collection of fine art presented at the Shain Library will provide viewers with an appreciation of the diversity, richness and creativity offered by the artists from the Latin World.”

Leo J. Garofalo, associate professor of history at the college, said, “This is a great opportunity for students to learn about the exciting work of the vibrant art traditions highlighted by the LNVA and brought to southeastern Connecticut.

“In particular, this is a chance for Connecticut College students to better understand Latino and Latin American artists and their sometimes active links to Europe, the African Diaspora, indigenous America and modern artistic trends in general.”

Garofalo also said he is hoping students will become involved with LNVA’s other work as volunteers and interns, especially with the biennial exhibition coming up this fall.

“In History and Hispanic Studies, we’ll link some of our classes and assignments to his exhibit,” he said. “Maybe we can inspire the Art and History Departments to become more involved with the LNVA, too.”

All of the artists in the LNVA’s permanent collection originally were part of the five previous LNVA’s biennial international exhibitions held in southeastern Connecticut. The organization is preparing its sixth exhibition this fall, with a current call to artists. Previous exhibitions have attracted hundreds of artists and opened up cultural avenues for thousands of southeastern Connecticut school children who take part in multi-language tours of the exhibit.

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José Luis Barcia Fernández - Spain



Luz Maria Benavente - Chile



Rosa M. Serrano – Puerto Rico



Pedro Hernández - Cuba