

tcc - the coffee connoisseur presents...

PAST REFLECTIONS: an exhibition of works on paper
by **Jose Maria Bustos**

tcc - the coffee connoisseur "The Gallery"
51 Circular Road

paintings will be on display from
3 November till 10 January 2010

Opening Hours :
Sunday to Thursday & Public Holidays 11:00am to Midnight
Friday, Saturday & Eve of Public Holidays 11:00am to 02:00am

Free to Public

General Enquiries: (+65) 6479 2445



Wheel of life'
48" x 60" acrylic on paper

presented by:



the coffee connoisseur

in collaboration with:



Enabling great talents to
shine the way they deserve...

In their latest exhibition, **tcc** is proud to present, American Artist, Designer, International Salsa Dj **Jose Maria Bustos** 2009 SOLO exhibition **Past Reflections** an exhibition of 13 works on paper dating as far as 1985

Media enquiries for the exhibition:

Adell Loo
art-management.com

Phone: (+65) 6479 2445 Fax: (+65) 6399 2818
Email: adell@art-management.com

Issued by:

Henry Tan
tcc - the coffee connoisseur

Phone: (+65) 6336 5675 Fax: (+65) 6338 9031
Email: henry_tan@thecoffeeconnoisseur.com



The Shepard

60" x 60" | acrylic on paper



The Rapture 1

46" x 42" | diptych



Arjuna's Grace

47" x 58.5" | acrylic on paper



Jose Maria Bustos

Artist, Designer, International Salsa Dj

About the artist: Jose Maria Bustos, BFA, MFA, is a Rockefeller Fellow in Museum Studies and Education and a recipient of the U.S.A. National Endowment for the Arts Grant among other renowned grants. He has been represented by Hansen Fuller Gallery in San Francisco, Dart Gallery In Chicago and the Carolyn Ruff Gallery in Minneapolis. For the last 16 years Bustos has been quietly painting and living in Singapore, and selling his art to local and overseas clients. Bustos enjoyed a popular and burgeoning career prior to moving to Singapore in 1993.

Truly unique in his own style, his experience stems from his early exposure to the arts in New York City. As he was raised only walking distance from the Metropolitan Museum, Whitney Museum and Guggenheim Museum these became his childhood playgrounds. In his teens, Bustos attended the now famous, "High School of Music and Art" in Manhattan majoring in fine art, and because of its association with New York's Museum of Modern Art, spent many of his weekends doing research there as well.

He later went on to study at the San Francisco Art Institute, where he received a BFA in Painting and Sculpture. At this stage in his career Bustos was personally asked by the renowned artist and then Dean of Princeton Universities Arts Department, Leon Golub to consider attending Princeton for his MFA. Bustos woven sculptures were of interest to Leon Golub and Bustos was introduced to other members of the Princeton faculty. However, Bustos decided to continue his studies at the San Francisco Art institute and in 1979 received an MFA in Performance and Conceptual Art. His conceptual studies were with artist likes Chris Burden, Tom Marioni, Vito Acconci, Maria Nordlin, Robert Irwin to name a few. His name later became closely associated with Karen Finley who also attended SFAI and London's Kipper Kids.

During his undergraduate years Bustos studied painting with internationally renowned artists such as Clifford Stills, Christos, William DeKooning, Jennifer Bartlett, Tom Holland, William T. Wiley, Robert Hudson and Ron Davis to name a few.

During his senior year of graduate school, Bustos was awarded the much coveted Rockefeller Fellowship Award in Museum Studies and education. As there is often limited fellowships awarded and thousands of applicants, it is considered a high honor. This fellowship allowed Bustos to serve as a junior curator at San Francisco's De Young Museum. During this period Bustos curated many exhibitions, interacted with many of the world's major museums and artists, wrote educational materials, as well as serving on documentary teams i.e. travel to American Indian reservations in Kansas and Montana to record and document remaining living legends of American Indian culture for the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C.

Bustos also received a National Endowment Emerging Artist Grant in 1981 for his performance art work. Bustos has been featured on the cover of Performance Art Magazine on several occasions and has performed at such places as the School for the Chicago Art Institute and San Francisco's Museum of Conceptual Art.

Bustos' extensive travel during the 60's to the 70's and beyond has always been to visit and live in the art centers of key European and South American countries. Countries such as Columbia, Guatemala, Spain, Rome, Paris and Greece helped inspire Bustos' present unique style of painting and provided inspiration for conceptual projects. He later settled in Israel for a year where he was exposed to the ancient arts of the Romans, Muslim and Hebrew cultures.

Soon after, Bustos studied in Mexico at the world famous artist colony known as San Miguel de Allende. There he attended Las Beyas Artes one of Mexico's most celebrated art schools and studied with the famous American painter Leonard Brooks as well as studying photography with Mexico's and one of the world's most famous photographers, Manuel Alveres Bravo. Exposure to the muralist Orusco, Diego Rivera and the works of Frida Kahlo was inspirational and longstanding.

Bustos by now is an all around artist with considerable accomplishments in Contemporary Art and Performance Art. He centers his art around his personal experiences and in creating the physical beauty of the human form through its inner strength and beauty. Bustos believes that man's final judgment will be based in his inner accomplishments and not his external ones. Bustos depicts this abstract concept through his large-scale paintings by the creative use of color, texture, and line. His figurative works are built in multi-layer application using vibrant colors and interesting placement of his subjects, which are created in his mind.

Jose Maria Bustos resides and paints in Singapore since 1993.

Education:

- MFA San Francisco Art Institute, 1979 Conceptual Art / Performance Art
- BFA San Francisco Art Institute, 1977 Painting / Sculpture
- Rockefeller / Nea Fellowship in Museum Studies and Education, 1978-1981

Exhibitions:

- 2003 Asian Art options Exhibit, Singapore Tourist Asso.
- 2003 UOB Painting of the Year Exhibit, Esplanade Singapore
- 1999 Hu' bar Exhibition, Singapore
- 1998 One Man Show, Club 21 Horizons Gallery, Singapore
- 1993 Group Exhibit, Ruff Gallery Minneapolis Mn.
- 1992 One Person Show, Ruff Gallery, Minneapolis Mn.
- 1990 One Person Show, Gallery Decoration 7, Chicago Ill.
- 1987 Print Exhibit, Imagery Gallery, Glen Ellyn, Ill.
- 1987 Group Exhibit, Howard Campanile Gallery, Chicago Ill.
- 1987 Group Exhibit, Northwestern University, Evanston Ill.
- 1986 Artist go to Bat, Marianne Deson Gallery, Chicago Ill.
- 1986 Two-person Exhibition, Perimeter Gallery, Chicago ill.
- 1986 Group Exhibit Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago ill.
- 1986 Group Exhibition Mount State University, New Jersey
- 1985 East West Exhibition, Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art, New York City
- 1985 Art Expo Navy Pier, Chicago ill.
- 1984 Celebration Of Art, YMCA, Chicago Ill.
- 1982 Drawing, Gallery MO David, San Francisco Calif.
- 1982 Racist Illinois Revised, School of the Chicago Art Institute
- 1981 Motel Tapes, American Film Festival, Washington D.C.
- 1981 Props For Sale, A Hole Gallery, San Francisco Calif.
- 1980 Bus Bench Installation, Sacramento Calif.
- 1080 Display For A Showcase, San Francisco Calif.
- 1980 The Registry Exchange/ The Farm, San Francisco Calif.
- 1979 Windows, J.C. Penny's Building, San Francisco Calif.
- 1979 Graphite Exhibition, San Francisco Museum of Contemporary Art
- 1979 Installation, Capricorn Asunder Gallery, San Francisco Calif.
- 1979 Installation, Intersection Gallery, San Francisco Calif.
- 1978 The Motel Tapes, Caravan Lodge, San Francisco Calif.
- !978 The Hansen-Fuller Gallery, San Francisco Calif.
- 1977 Installation, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco Calif.
- 1977 Fifth Sun Exhibition, University of California at Berkley, Berkley Calif.
- 1977 Museum and University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara California
- 1977 The Third World Exhibition, De Anza Collage Cupertino, Cupertino Calif.
- 1977 Inside / Outside Exhibition, Galleria De la Raza, San Francisco Calif.
- 1977 Video Anthology, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco Calif.
- 1977 Winter in America, San Francisco Art institute, San Francisco Calif.
- 1976 Jose Maria Bustos, Diego Rivera Gallery, San Francisco Calif.

Performances:

- 1993 "La Negra Santa" Ruff Gallery Minneapolis Mn.
- 1992 "Shine" Ruff Gallery Minneapolis Mn.
- 1990 "Salvation", Decoration 7, Chicago Ill
- 1989 "Incantations", Private performance, Chicago Ill.
- 1985 "In my name" Street of Spanish Harlem
- 1983 "Getting Over The Hump" Chicago Art Exposition
- 1983 "Kunst Kocks" Chicago Illinois
- 1982 "Art Stinks" Chicago Illinois
- 1982 "The Vindication" Name Gallery, Chicago Ill.
- 1982 "Snow Bomb", Chicago Ill.
- 1982 "Cuando, Cuando" Comedy Showcase, Chicago Ill.
- 1982 "Racist Illinois" Cross Currents Gallery, Chicago ill.
- 1981 "Dead Weight", Chicago Ill.
- 1980 "I'd Rather Be Rich Than Famous", Museum of Conceptual Art, San Francisco Calif.
- 1980 "Piece For Young Boys" 80 Langton Street, San Francisco Calif.
- 1979 "Back "Door Love" American Indian Center, San Francisco Calif.
- 1979 "Jump" San Francisco Financial District
- 1978 "Castle to Castle" San Francisco Art institute

Corporate Collections:

- University Of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Mn.
- Dain Bosworth Collection, Minneapolis Mn.
- Oregon State University, Portland Oregon
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Maegher & Flom, Chicago Ill.
- Rudnick & Wolf, Chicago ill.
- McDonalds Corporation, Oak Brook Ill.
- Block Gallery, Northwestern University, Evanston ill
- Illinois State Museum
- Anixter Brothers, Skokie Ill.
- Area International, Chicago Ill
- Salton USA, Highland park Ill.
- Richard Resse Designs, Honolulu Hawaii
- James P. Productions, Chicago Ill.

Private Collections: Over thirty paintings in private collections around the world

Television and Radio:

- 1990 Fox 32 – Nuestras Semanas, Chicago Ill
- 1990 Channel 9 Ellena Gutierrez, Chicago Ill
- 1991 Victoria Lautman, Arts Review, Chicago Ill

Appointments:

1983 Artist Committee, San Francisco Art Institute

Awards:

2003 UOB Painting of the Year, Highly-Commended
1984 Illinois Arts Council Grant
1984 Prescriptive Window Award
1981 NEA Emerging Artist Grant
1979 Best in MFA Show, San Francisco Art Institute
1978 SFAI Scholarship Award
1977 SFAI Scholarship Award
1976 SFAI Scholarship Award
1975 SFAI Scholarship Award

Bibliography:

"Manhattan Transfer" Home & Décor Magazine Singapore, May 2000
"All mighty Gods" Elle Magazine Singapore, October 1998
"World Express" Citta Bella Magazine Singapore, October 1998
"Jose Maria Bustos" by Clarissa Oon, The Straits Times Singapore October 1998
"Jose Maria Bustos" The Zaobao Fukan Singapore, October 1998
"The Grace of Bustos" by Mary Lee, Man Magazine Singapore 1995
"A Printmakers Sensibility" by Allan Artner, Chicago Tribune, Sept. 1986
"Mixing Metaphore" By Hedy Weiss, Stagebill Chicago 1983
High Performance Magazine, Vol 6 No.2 1983
Knowwhere Magazine, Chicago June/ July 1983
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Space , Time , Sound
Damage Magazine, no. 6 San Francisco, May 1980
High Performance Magazine, Vol.2, No.4, 1980
High Performance Magazine, Vol.1 No.3 Sept.1979
"Windows" by Jeff Jarvis, San Francisco Examiner, Feb.1979
High Performance Magazine, Vol.1 No.3 Sept. 1978
San Francisco Museum Of Modern Art, Graffiti Catalogue April 1978
Fifth Sun, Catalogue, University Art Museum Berkley, Calif.

PAST REFLECTIONS: an exhibition of works on paper by **Jose Maria Bustos**

The large canvases of Jose Maria Bustos are intricately textured and delight in nuances. The imagery is meticulously composed almost like symbolic paintings and presents an oddly balanced whole, despite the strong use colours and the striking assembly of forms that take in the eye.

Jose Maria Bustos grew up in the glorious period of American art, breathing the air of the jubilant pop art movement, wandering the experimental worlds of Claes Oldenburg, submerged in the raw canvases of the abstract expressionists. This was an exciting time no doubt and Bustos had a fair share of it while studying at the prestigious High School of Music and Art, New York that left a lasting impression on his mind and grounded the adroit technique and controlled execution seen in his paintings.

What followed high school was of no less significance, Jose journeyed to Europe and South America, traveling to the citadels of Western art, Paris, Rome, Greece, and Rome, Mexico, Columbia and more. He also spent a year at Israel. The rich infusion of art from the Aztecs to the Romans and on to the more modern European masters, no doubt prepared Bustos for his bold experiments. From Guatemala, in 1974, he returned to America and went on to enroll himself to study painting and sculpture at the San Francisco Art Institute. Bustos spent six years here, graduating with an MFA and the invigoration that comes from being in a dynamic cultural milieu. Bustos then began creating prolifically and his work consisted of conceptual artworks and numerous performances in San Francisco and Chicago. And these were invariably well-conceived, structurally precise, and often subtly ironic. Several important awards followed such as the National Endowment for the Arts Grant and the Rockefeller fellowship. Bustos now lives in Singapore, since 1993 where he works and paints.

As such Bustos's paintings belly easy categorisation, they are as formally interesting as they are figuratively enchanting. The symbolism however is by no means accidental stresses the artist, each aspect, form and detail belongs to a well thought out whole. At the same time, Bustos does rely on a certain intuition; he explains that there is no complete answer on how these paintings are envisioned in the imagination or beyond. One of the most consistent motifs in Bustos paintings and his oeuvre is suffering- artistic and existential suffering. Often this appears through layered references resulting in an undeniably strong impact. And yet, figures from mythologies, religious texts symbolising hope, faith sustain a life-affirming quality in these artworks. The textural richness of the paintings is deliberated too. Bustos admits that the artistic process and its experience are fundamental and vital to him. "I would even say that I create paintings purely to experience painting itself"

Usha M. Nathan



the coffee connoisseur

- **An Art Space for Everyday Use:**

At the coffee connoisseur Circular Road art boutique caffè we have created an Art Gallery where a whole range of works by both local and foreign artists will be featured through exhibitions that are organized on a quarterly basis.

The old heritage building that is situated at Singapore's historic river district lends itself perfectly to an art gallery. The ground floor offers the more conventional seating for those in a rush, while those who want to escape from the outside pressure and stress can slip upstairs out of sight and away from the sounds of the busy street.

Here the ambience is totally laid back as you find beanbags that let you sink into oblivion are scattered across the space. Where you can take your time to peruse art magazines provided and enjoy the paintings on the wall. Art, like a great cup of coffee, shouldn't be rushed.

tcc created this very special art space in a city that seeks to nurture the arts because we want art to communicate in a relaxed atmosphere. And let's face it, it's so easy to relax over a great cup of coffee.

The artists whose works appear at *tcc* "The Gallery" have a wonderful opportunity to reach a wider audience through a space that is frequented by people from many areas of work, and especially those who may not have the time nor inclination to visit more conventional art spaces like museums and galleries.

- **Special Partnerships:**

tcc recognises the benefits not only of supporting the arts by forging creative partnerships with people who specialise in the arts, we also let art experts do what they're good at while we get on and do what we're best at – providing excellent service and great coffee.

We work exclusively with art-management.com, a company dedicated to promoting and managing visual artists both in Singapore and overseas. art-management.com has, from its beginning focused on linking the artists it represents with leading brand names in a way that will be of benefit to both artist and brand. *tcc* is the latest in a long list of leading brands that art-management.com has been proud to work with.

Claude Verly, Managing Director and Founder of art-management.com has commented in relation to his partnership with *tcc*, "One of the biggest challenges in managing art and artists in Singapore today is finding new and unusual venues in which to present the art, and then matching up the artist with the venue. This venture with *tcc* takes art-management.com into a new phase; together we take art into the public arena rather than relying on people coming to the art. At the *tcc* "The Gallery", the art will be there always for people to realize them.

Through art-management.com, *tcc* is able to support the artist in terms of providing an art space that is totally rent-free and driving awareness for them through media publicity and events.