



Enrique Chagoya, *Hand of Power*, 1993, Oil on tin with galvanized steel frame, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Gift of Gallery Paule Anglim and Enrique Chagoya, Photograph © 2006 Museum Associates/LACMA

## PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM ANNOUNCES NEW EXHIBITION

*Enrique Chagoya: Borderlandia* will be on view September 27, 2008 – December 28, 2008

Palm Springs, CA (September 2, 2008) – Contemporary icons such as Mickey Mouse and Wonder Woman intermingle with historical figures and ancient Aztec gods in fantastic compositions in the Palm Springs Art Museum's newest exhibition, *Enrique Chagoya: Borderlandia*, a 25-year survey of the Mexican-born, American artist, on view September 27, 2008 through December 28, 2008.

A borderless world of cultural hybrids and collisions inhabits Enrique Chagoya's work, in which he combines a diverse selection of visual material spanning hundreds of years and separated by thousands of miles. Chagoya taps his personal history and interests—Mexico's complex past, international politics, various religions, art history, and popular culture. According to the artist, "Humankind is in constant war with itself, perfectly capable of total destruction. This is the raw material for my art." More than 70 lively paintings, mixed media codices (accordion-folded books), large-scale charcoal and pastel drawings, and numerous prints will be included in this expansive survey exhibition.

### About the artist:

Born in Mexico City in 1953, Chagoya regularly visited the museums of the capital city and Teotihuacán as a child. These cultural institutions provided him with his first exposure to pre-Columbian culture. Chagoya was influenced by his Catholic upbringing and the socio-political environment in Mexico, which also influence his art. Chagoya moved to the United States in 1979 and in 1984 he enrolled at the San Francisco Art Institute where he created the powerful work that begins this mid-career survey exhibition. Chagoya utilizes traditional Mexican approaches to art making: painting on aluminum directly refers to the folk art tradition of the ex-voto or retablo and his paintings on amate—fig bark—allude to the ancient Aztec and Mayan codex books. Drawing on the rich tradition of Mexican political prints—particularly José Guadalupe Posada—Chagoya's intelligent and witty narratives satirize and, at times, celebrate the complicated cultural and psychological consequences of more than 500 years of contact and influence between worlds.

### Special Exhibition Events and Programs

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Palm Springs Art Museum has several educational programs planned.

Bilingual gallery talks about the exhibition will be conducted **every Saturday and Sunday** at 11:00 a.m. during the run of the exhibition.

On **Sunday, October 26** at 3 p.m. the museum will host a free panel discussion entitled *Hybrid Art/Hybrid Culture*, moderated by Professor Dino Bonzonelos of Victor Valley College. This discussion will center on where the border lies between artistic and cultural expression.

On **Friday, November 14** at 5:30 p.m., the museum will host a lecture entitled *Artist and Printmaker*. This stimulating lecture will discuss the collaborative process between artist Enrique Chagoya and printmaker Bud Shark. Shark's Ink, based in Colorado has printed and published an extensive body of prints while collaborating with many distinguished American artists. This presentation will highlight Shark's collaboration with Enrique Chagoya. Admission is \$10 for nonmembers, \$5 for museum members and free to members of the museum's Contemporary Art Council.

On **Saturday, November 15** at 10 a.m. the museum's Artist Council will host a Printmaking Master Class with Enrique Chagoya. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will allow a select number of participants to attend a hands-on printmaking class taught by the artist in the museum's Sidonia Milano Artists Council Center. To attend, please contact the Artists Council Coordinator for further information, 760.322.4850.

On **Sunday November 16** at 2 p.m. and **Thursday November 20** at 6 p.m. the museum will present *Myth Making*, a family activity that uses the technique of collage to create a codex of the participant's family myths and stories. This activity is suitable for all ages and is free and open to the public.

About the exhibition catalogue:

A 100-page, full-color, bilingual—English and Spanish—catalogue spanning Chagoya's career will accompany the exhibition and will include a foreword by Art Center Director Jeff Fleming; essays by Patricia Hickson, Art Center curator; Daniela Pérez, associate curator of contemporary art at Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporáneo in Mexico City; and Robert Storr, Dean of the Yale School of Art and Commissioner of the 2007 Venice Biennale; a catalogue of works in the exhibition; an artist's chronology; and selected exhibition history. The catalogue will be available for purchase in the Museum Store.

Located downtown in an architecturally-significant E. Stewart Williams-designed building, the Palm Springs Art Museum features exciting exhibitions of contemporary, Native American, Western and Pre-Columbian art in spacious galleries. It features two sculpture gardens, stimulating lectures and educational programs for all ages, and offers diverse performances at its Annenberg Theater. The Art Museum is open six days a week; Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free to members; \$12.50 for adults; \$10.50 for seniors 62 and over; \$5 for adult students and active-duty military with I.D. and free for youths 17 and under. For more information, call 760.322.4800 or visit [www.psmuseum.org](http://www.psmuseum.org).

THIS EXHIBITION IS ORGANIZED BY THE DES MOINES ART CENTER. THE EXHIBITION IS SPONSORED BY THE LANNAN FOUNDATION AND PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.; ADDITIONAL SUPPORT IS PROVIDED BY THE JACQUELINE & MYRON BLANK EXHIBITION FUND. SUPPORT FOR THE CATALOGUE HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY GEORGE ADAMS GALLERY, GALLERY PAULE ANGLIM, AND STANFORD UNIVERSITY.

THE PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM PRESENTATION IS SUPPORTED BY A GRANT FROM THE JAMES IRVINE FOUNDATION AND THE MUSEUM'S CONTEMPORARY ART COUNCIL.

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**MEDIA NOTE:** High resolution images of this exhibition can be obtained by calling Bob Bogard at 760.322.4814 or emailing at [bbogard@psmusuem.org](mailto:bbogard@psmusuem.org)