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Conexión presents
the 2008 Sabroso
Awards.
Photo by Helen L.
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by Monte Bach

Fotoseptiembre festival begins

Month-long event to showcase international photographers in S.A.

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What started in 1996 as a local group of 12 exhibits and conferences has grown into an international festival celebrating photography and the artists behind it.

Fotoseptiembre USA, an annual month-long photography festival, officially kicks off Monday, Sept. 1, with free-of-charge photo exhibits at venues around San Antonio and in other cities and countries. Photographers participating in Fotoseptiembre USA also can display their works online at fotoseptiembreusa.com, making it a truly global event.

Organizers of Fotoseptiembre USA say the festival is meant to celebrate the photographic art form while giving photographers a venue to showcase their work.

After its low-key start in 1996, Fotoseptiembre USA became an international event in 1998 when organizers were joined by Centro de la Imagen in Mexico City. By 2002, Fotoseptiembre USA hit its peak with 230 artists in 75 exhibits at 62 venues, and it expanded to cities in Peru, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Iran and India.

This year, Fotoseptiembre USA organizers don't have an exact count of the number of artists involved in the festival, although they say it's more than 50 exhibits at close to 50 venues.

'To be honest, we stopped counting a long time ago,' said Michael Mehl, Fotoseptiembre USA director.

Mehl said the exhibit's large online component and the number of galleries involved make it difficult to track the festival's exact numbers of participants.

Here's a glimpse of some Latino photo artists participating in this year's Fotoseptiembre USA and where you can see their work:

Zoe Sheenan Saldana

Solo exhibition opens Thursday, Aug. 28, Southwest School Of Art & Craft, 1201 Navarro St.

The New York artist exhibits photographic works that comment on social issues. The exhibit's opening reception is at 5:30 p.m. The exhibit remains on display through Oct. 19. Call



COURTESY PHOTO BY CECILIA PAREDES

The work of Cecilia Paredes will be on display during the photography festival Fotoseptiembre USA.

(210) 224-1848 or visit www.swschool.org for more details.

Veronica Riedel

Exhibition opens Thursday, Aug. 28, Southwest School Of Art & Craft, 1201 Navarro St.

The artist from Guatemala explores the resilient nature of indigenous women through mixed-media photographs. The exhibit opens with a 5:30 p.m. reception, and remains on display through Oct. 19. Call (210) 224-1848 or visit www.swschool.org for more details.

'International Exposure: Looking At Contemporary Photography'

Group exhibition opens Monday, Sept. 1, City of San Antonio

International Center, 203 S. St. Mary's St.

Arturo Almeida and Cecilia Paredes are among the artists featured in this exhibit curated by Patricia Ruiz-Healy. The exhibit is on display through Sept. 30. Private tours available by appointment. Call (210) 804-2219 for more details.

Jorge Pablo de Aquinaco

Solo exhibition opens Thursday, Sept. 4, Rendon Photography & Fine Art, 733 S. Alamo St.

The Mexican artist displays his work in this solo exhibition he calls 'El Color Del Tiempo.' The exhibit opens with a 6 p.m. reception, and is on display through Oct. 31. Viewing hours are by appointment. Call (210) 288-4900 for more information.