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Art Beat

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First Friday gets snap happy for Fotoseptiembre

By Elda Silva on Sep 2, 09 02:08 PM | [Permalink](#) | [Comments \(0\)](#)

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(Courtesy Cactus Bra Space)

As might be expected, the majority of the exhibits opening Thursday (Sept. 3) and First Friday (Sept. 4) in King William are part of [Fotoseptiembre USA](#). Most, but not all. One notable exception is Judith Cottrell's "...It's Time" at [Cactus Bra Space](#). The installation/performance opens with receptions at 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday (Sept. 3-4). At Joan Grona Gallery, there is another non-Fotoseptiembre show with paintings by Vanessa Centeno, drawings by Virginia Spencer and photographs by Ramin Samandari. Samandari photographed rallies and vigils by Iranians outside the country in support of demonstrators in Iran who protested the June elections.

"Just as vigils and protests around the world are attempts to bring attention to the plight of the Iranian people, these images are my attempt to do the same," said Samandari, who was born in Iran, in his artist's statement.

Other than that, First Friday is pretty much photo fest or famine. Here's a sample of what's on the menu:

Blue Star Contemporary Art Center: "The History of the Future," an exhibit of photographs by Michael Berman and Julian Cardona focusing on border issues, opens with a reception 6 p.m. Thursday. Also, artist Gary Sweeney will present a fence mural demonstration with ARTsmart MOSAIC students at 6 p.m. Friday.

El Sol Studios: "Sueños," California photographer Roxanne R. Haynes' images of the famous -- think Santana, the Rolling Stones, Manu Chao -- and the not-so-famous opens with receptions at 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday

Rendon Photography & Fine Art: "A Carnival of Messages," a show of new artwork by Kat Brown, Ray Seabaugh and Bruce Shackelford opens with a reception 6 p.m. Friday. Through Oct. 25.

SAY SI: "Memories: Projected and Invented, an exhibit of experimental photography in mixed media formats exploring the nature of memory, opens with a reception at 6 p.m. Friday.

Stonemetal Press: "Something Unexpected," an exhibit of black-and-white polymer photogravures by Deobrah Riley, opens with a reception at 6 p.m. Thursday.

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