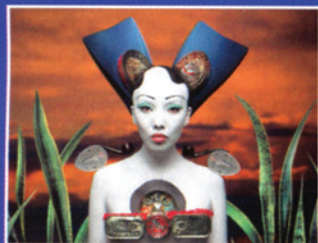


FIESTA[®] MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2012

Art



FOTOSEPTIEMBRE

Food



TASTE OF THE RIVER WALK

Events



FESTIVAL PEOPLE EN ESPAÑOL

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IN FOCUS

FOTOSEPTIEMBRE

BY LAURA STELLA REYES

The scene is all framed out. Numerous cultural centers will spotlight the latest photographic work of artists from across the globe. The 18th annual FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA International Photography Festival is scheduled for the entire month of September. The University of Texas at San Antonio, the San Antonio Museum of Art, local galleries, and cafés will all participate in the city's biggest photography festival, which has been nationally recognized for its outstanding dedication to the arts. Art houses throughout the Hill Country will also host special exhibits.

In 1995, local photographer and enthusiast Michael Mehl founded the festival in hopes of connecting local artists with those in Mexico. It has since expanded into a global artistic exchange between countries such as Asia, Iran, Canada and Europe. With the thousands of photographers who have participated, Mehl and festival organizers have lost count of just how many have joined his artistic initiative.



13 Queens by Alex & Felix



Stage by Shen, Chao-Liang

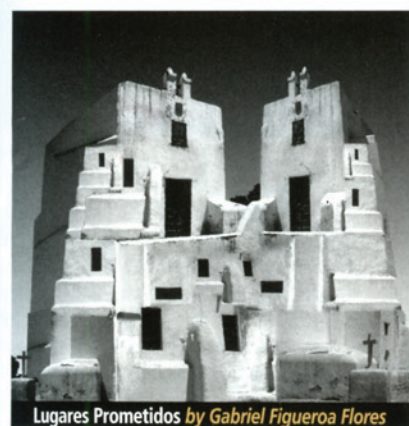
Artists are given free range on the content they wish to present, so long as they follow the medium of photography. The festival is their chance to raise awareness about social and cultural matters, share their love for nature, people, animals and anything under the sun.

The Instituto Cultural de México will host seven signature exhibits. Swiss photographers Alex & Felix; Ursula Sprecher; Julian Salinas; and Christian Lichtenberg will be part of the collection, as well as the work of Gabriel Figueroa Flores from Mexico; Taiwan's Shen, Chao-Liang; Brooklyn photographer Lori Nix; and L.A.'s Susan Burnstine. Themes range from queens and cities to light and intimate encounters.

Whether in black and white, color or digitally enhanced, all the showcased works have a unique stamp of creativity that will dazzle the eye. The Instituto is located downtown at 600 Hemisphere Park. For gallery hours, call (210) 227-0123 or visit www.saculturamexico.org.

Other notable exhibits include Diego Huerta's "31K Portraits for Peace," at the UTSA Satellite Space. Huerta's photography features portraits of Mexican citizens holding an origami dove. The portraits honor the 31,000 people who lost their lives over a four-year period of Mexico's drug-war violence. The exhibit, which opens Sept. 6, is the artist's effort to bring awareness about the violence that continues to plague his country today. The gallery, located at 115 Blue Star, is open noon to 6 p.m. Friday-Sunday. For more details, visit <http://art.utsa.edu>.

At Rendon Photography & Fine Art, "It Might Have Been Midnight When We Last



Lugares Prometidos by Gabriel Figueroa Flores

Talked," is the work of Lance Keimig and Scott Martin. Keimig, a Massachusetts based photographer, and Texas' Martin are both known for their stunning night photography. Local photographer Al Rendon will curate the exhibit, which opens Sept. 7, at his gallery at 733 South Alamo. For details, call (210) 288-4900 or visit www.alrendon.com.

See George Jackson's latest series "Tzompantli," at Cosas in Boerne. The internationally known photographer's exhibit is an exploration of color and light. The opening reception is Saturday, Sept. 8 at 4 p.m., at Cosas, 1109 S. Main St. It will run through November. For viewing hours, call (830) 249-1500 or visit www.cosasonline.com.

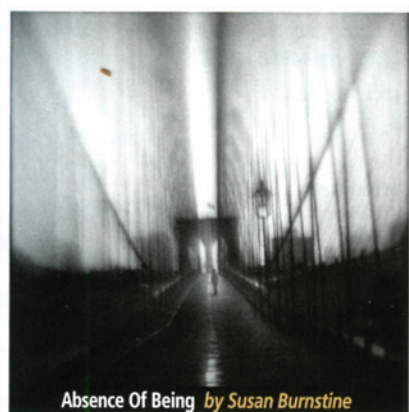
San Antonio's very own Ansen Seale will have his exhibit, "China in Motion," on display at Bismarck Studios Contemporary Fine Art Gallery. During a recent trip to China, Seale



The City by Lori Nix

used a self-made camera that captures things clearly only when they are moving. His opening reception is Thursday, Sept. 13 at 7 p.m., at 930 Proton, Suite 202. It will run through October. For a sneak peak of the exhibit, visit <http://bismarckstudios.com>

Remember, all FOTOSEPTIEMBRE events are free and open to the public. A complete exhibition and events calendar can be found at <http://fotoseptiembreusa.com>. There you can catch a glimpse of some of this year's seven signature exhibits.



Absence Of Being by Susan Burnstine