



community school of music and arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community School of Music and Arts Presents *Insensatez* by Cristina Velazquez and EfrenAve

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA – The Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) in Mountain View presents *Insensatez*, an exhibition featuring sculpture and collage work by artists Cristina Velazquez and EfrenAve. The exhibition will be on display in CSMA's Mohr Gallery from February 3 through March 19, 2017. There will be a reception with the artists on Friday, February 10 from 6-8pm.

Cristina Velazquez displays *Enajenaciones*, a body of work created at AIR Recology. It is comprised of soft and hard transplanted material fragments into amorphous creatures. Her work explores the idea that the transformation of found objects leads to the recreation of oversize inner body cells--a reminder of the human existence. Velazquez says, "We are created of multiple pieces, which make up a unified being. It is the disjointed pieces that provoke a dialogue on the discrepancy and discrimination of able to disabled bodies. Impaired bodies are treated as unwanted matter to be easily discarded." Velazquez is currently a student at the San Francisco Art Institute pursuing a dual MA/MFA degree in the History and Theory of Contemporary Art, New Genres. She has exhibited at MACLA and Works Gallery in San Jose, and at SOMArts, Galleria de la Raza and Meridian Gallery in San Francisco.

EfrenAve's work features colorful collages made of fruit stamps. He was inspired by fruit stamps on mangoes that were used to make a Mexican dessert called "mangoneada". He saw the opportunity of making something creative and sharing quality time with his father, who was in a wheelchair. While working with the stickers EfrenAve noticed how each one had a story to tell. Some stamps told passages of his father's life; others told the stories of working in the mango orchards and the working and tired hands living under the poverty line that picked them. Each stamp tells the story of a proud artist for his artwork, of a successful entrepreneur, of a tradition of wide quantity of flavors that is still alive, and of a satisfied palate. But they also tell the story of a hungry child, of a young man without much future, of a tired old man, and of a family struggling to survive in marginalized communities. A native of Michoacan, Mexico, EfrenAve immigrated to California in 1990. He uses traditional oil and water based mediums to convey highly satirical and comical imagery surrounding issues of the borderland between the US and Mexico, as well as everyday experiences. He has exhibited at MACLA, San Jose, Sanchez Art Center (Pacifica), Gallery 2902 (San Jose) and other local and national venues. He is part of the *We Are You Project*, a traveling show.

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For more information about this exhibition, visit www.arts4all.org. For artist interviews and additional images, contact Sharon Kenney, Director of Marketing & Communications, at 650-917-6800, ext 305 or skenney@arts4all.org.

EVENT CALENDAR INFORMATION:

WHAT: *Insensatez*, Sculpture and Collage by Cristina Velazquez and EfrenAve

WHERE: Mohr Gallery, Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA)
Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View, CA

WHEN: February 3 through March 19, 2017
Artist Reception: Friday, February 10, 6-8pm

COST: Exhibition and reception are free and open to the public.

INFO: www.arts4all.org; 650-917-6800, ext 305

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Founded in 1968, the Community School of Music and Arts is Northern California's largest non-profit provider of arts education programs. With a \$5 million budget and 160-member staff and faculty, CSMA is one of the ten largest community schools in the United States. Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, one of the global capitals of creativity, CSMA is dedicated to making the arts and arts education accessible to all, regardless of age, experience or background. Headquartered in the award-winning Finn Center in the City of Mountain View, CSMA directly serves over 22,000 people of all ages, skill levels and economic means each year, including over 16,000 students at 40+ schools in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

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