

RECENT WORK BY CARLOS VILLA: An exhibition of paintings, drawings, garments, and photographs using a wide range of nontraditional materials and methods--feathers, bones, hair, paper pulp, gauze, body molds and body prints.

Helen Euphrat Gallery, De Anza College (408) 996-4836

Jan Rindfleisch, Gallery Coordinator

April 22 - May 23, 1980

Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday, 7-9 p.m.

"Carlos Villa, painter, teacher, and community activist, is well known in the Bay Area for his work in promoting the understanding and appreciation of art by young artists of minority descent. For more than ten years Villa himself has been exploring formal and thematic alternatives to Western modern art, while incorporating his training in and awareness of contemporary abstraction. He utilizes a distinctive range of non-traditional materials to create works in an equally wide range of formats. Inspired by a variety of ethnic sources, Villa not only evokes, but revitalizes his own Oceanic roots, while he directs our attention to the magical, symbolic, and fetishistic elements of his work, as expressions of personal, yet universal power.

"The latest pieces on paper and canvas include several 'ritual' coats, capes, and body parts, fashioned from paper-pulp and gauze, embellished with pheasant or rooster feathers and acrylic paint. In the painting entitled "Waiting at the Ninth Circle," Villa has used his body as a paintbrush, leaving profile impressions and footprint tracks, as a moving re-creation of physical gesture--a visual effect that is much like ancient pictographic emblems on cave walls or rocks. Such "contact-imprints" of the artist's own face and body-parts bring the viewer into a direct somatic and psychological relationship with the painter's creative process and energies."

-- Tamara E. Wasserman
Art Historian