

# ART SCENE

"I think there are a lot of people interested in Latin American art, and would really enjoy coming here," comments Barbara Berger, visual arts program and education coordinator.

*Contemporary Art From Chile* focuses on five contemporary artists: Gonzalo Diaz, Virginia Errazuriz, Gonzalo Mezza, Alicia Villarreal, and Enrique Zamudio.

Materials used in the exhibit range from multimedia installations, including a montage of photographic images in slides and polaroids, as well as wood, light bulbs, stickers and painted glass.

One artist that really seems to invoke a genuine feeling for his



Gonzalo Diaz's *Painting on Commission*, 1985

country is the work of Enrique Zamudio. He incorporates a historical, cultural, and material context of Chile in his work entitled, *Santiago Photo-pictographs: Landscapes from the Camera Obscura*, which echoes a similar style of Rauschenberg and Warhol.

This work—a series of seven across and four high individual square canvases of photo emulsion and oil paints each displaying different deserted landmarks in Chile—takes up the entire wall opposite the gallery entrance.

To the left of Zamudio's work comically hangs the work of Gonzalo Diaz. The artist has created what looks like a huge movie poster showing a man with a solemn look on his face holding one of those annoying little chihuahua dogs.

The painting on canvas and cardboard, entitled *Painting on Commission*, has an additional appendage. Directly in front of the work is a cardboard cutout of the artist himself in the guise of a photographer preparing to photograph the painting. The man in the painting who is also crippled and a painter actually portrays a second self-portrait of Diaz. Irony at its best.

In addition to The Americas Society gallery exhibits there is also an outreach program which includes guided gallery tours, lectures, public and community programs including dance demonstrations and musical performances for children. (See Box)

Some upcoming exhibits to look forward to at the Society are *Masks of the Americas*, *Treasures from Colonial Colombia and Ecuador*, and *Canadian Impressionism*. "We do show such a wide range. From Pre-Columbian to Contemporary works that it's interesting and really varies. We don't just show one thing," says Berger.

As varied as the Americas themselves.



Enrique Zamudio's *Santiago Photo-pictographs: Landscapes from the Camera Obscura*, 1988-90

The following free programs on the Arts of Chile will be held this month at the Society. Admission is free. Call 249-8950, ext.372 for reservations and information.

Thursday, April 11. 6pm  
 Panel Discussion on Chilean Art  
 Speakers: artists Ismael Frigerio, Catalina Parra, Jorge Tacla and Cecilia Vicuna; moderator, Fatima Brecht, director of visual arts of the Americas Society.

Wednesday, April 17. 6pm  
 Issues on Chilean Art: The Past Two Decades  
 Speaker: Chilean art critic Adriana Valdes

Wednesday, April 24. 6pm  
 Video Art from Chile:  
 A screening of recent video works by Chilean artists.

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 Gallery