

Eduardo Sarabia: *History of the World***17 July through 23 August 2008**

Opening reception for the artist: Thursday, 17 July, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Following his inclusion in L.A. Louver's exhibition *Rogue Wave '07*, Eduardo Sarabia presents a large-scale installation in the first floor galleries that includes new sculpture and paintings.

The focus of the exhibition is an installation of over six hundred ceramic plates, each a unique form that is hand painted with blue enamel. The plates include the artist's signature iconography - automatic weapons, marijuana leaves, roosters, goats, and scantily clad, provocative women - that relates to the symbols and language of black market and illegal cross-border commerce. This extensive body of work also embodies the artist's interest in mining culture, and specifically traditional Mexican ceramic art techniques, to address contemporary issues.



History of the World 93, 2008, hand painted ceramic plate, 12.6 in. (32 cm)

While each is an individual artwork, the plates are hung floor to ceiling within the gallery, to create a dense visual environment and site for storytelling. Further, the south gallery features a large shelving unit upon which a variety of hand painted ceramic forms - vases, plates, cups, pots and trays are stacked.

In addition to the ceramic works, the exhibition includes three new paintings, based on Sarabia's photography of family events and scenes from his daily life. Reinterpreting the photographs into oil paintings, Sarabia interrupts the viewer's reading of the figures and landscape with abstract markings, which also redefine the space within the composition.

Born in Los Angeles in 1976, Eduardo Sarabia received his BFA from Otis College of Art and Design. His work has been included in numerous exhibitions worldwide, including Santa Monica Museum of Art (solo show), California, 2002; Prague Biennial I, Czech Republic, and the Studio Museum, Harlem, New York in 2003; Musée International des Arts Modestes, Paris, France, and White Box, New York in 2004; Antiguo Museo de Arte Moderno, Guadalajara, Mexico, and the 51st Venice Biennale, Venice Italy, 2005.

This year Sarabia's work was included in the Whitney Biennial, New York (March 6 - June 1, 2008), and may currently be seen in *Phantom Sightings: Art after the Chicano Movement*, at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art through September 1, 2008. An ongoing art project, *Salon Aleman*, which features the artist's homemade tequila served in a tequila bar setting, premiered at United Nations Plaza in Berlin in October 2006, and was presented over three nights in March during the 2008 Whitney Biennial at the Park Avenue Armory. *Salon Aleman* was most recently held at the 21st Century Museum in Louisville, Kentucky in June 2008.

Sarabia currently divides his time between Guadalajara, Mexico; Los Angeles, California; and Berlin, Germany.