

View from the Bench:

Social Justice in Art, Law, and Religion of the Chicano Community

JUNE 19, 2018 – SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

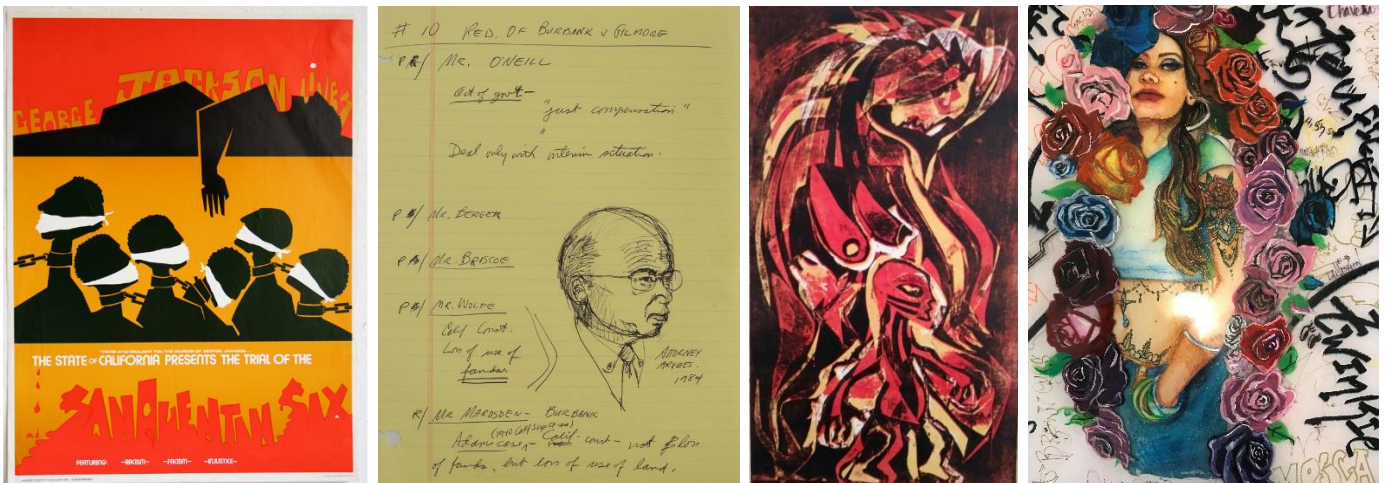
OPENING RECEPTION: Tuesday, June 19, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

CLOSING ARTIST ROUND TABLE: Thursday, September 20, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION
FLORA LAMSON HEWLETT LIBRARY
2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley

A View from the Bench features a selection of drawings by Cruz Reynoso on his case notes while he served on the California State Supreme Court, as well as works by other Chicano artists. Chicano art is often produced for the community, a deeply religious community. Rather than artists hiding their faith tradition, the Chicano community creates art about protest and social justice which is fundamentally rooted in the community's faith tradition.

Cruz Reynoso was an active part of the Chicano Civil Rights movement in California. Eventually, he became the first Latino on the California State Supreme Court, served as vice-chair on the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton. But initially, he aspired to be an artist. He lived with and worked for his high school art teacher and her commercial artist husband for the last years of high school and the beginning of college and continued to draw throughout his legal career. The ethic which drove Reynoso's civil rights work is rooted in his Catholic upbringing, shaped by the fifty years he spent in Baptist churches with his first wife, and may have found its closest religious expression in the Unitarian Universalist Church he now attends.



Artworks (left to right) by Malaquias Montoya, Cruz Reynoso, Andres Cisneros-Galindo, & Valerie Medina.

Artists: Cruz Reynoso | Malaquias Montoya | Andres Cisneros-Galindo | Xochitl Nevel Guerrero | Yadira Cazares | Maria Sanchez | Juan Fuentes | Anna Alvarado | Julie Zarate | Gustavo Reynoso | Liliana Navarro | G. Billie Quijano | Robert Chavarrin Guerrero | Rondall Reynoso | Valerie Medina



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The Exhibition is made possible by the Jane Dillenberger Fine Arts Endowment.

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