

JACK RUTBERG FINE ARTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FRANCISCO ZÚÑIGA: WOMAN AS ICON

A Major Exhibition of Drawings and Sculpture
September 29, 2007 - January 31, 2008



ADDRESS: Jack Rutberg Fine Arts
357 N. La Brea Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90036-2517

CONTACT: Jack Rutberg
Tel (323) 938-5222 Fax: (323) 938-0577
Email: jrutberg@jackrutbergfinearts.com

Los Angeles, CA - Jack Rutberg Fine Arts in Los Angeles presents a formidable exhibition of works by the major Mexican 20th century artist and sculptor **Francisco Zúñiga** (b. Costa Rica 1912 - d. Mexico 1998), opening on Saturday, September 29, 2007, and extending through January 31, 2008. The exhibition, **Francisco Zúñiga: Woman as Icon**, opens with a preview reception Saturday, September 29 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Ariel Zúñiga, the artist's son and biographer, will be in attendance.

This ambitious exhibition of Zúñiga works features important sculpture, drawings and watercolors. Highlights include one of the few exceedingly rare sculptures in wood by the artist entitled *Mother with Child at her Hip*, 1982, offered for the first time. Also included are a rare marble sculpture, a larger-than-life-sized bronze *Juchiteca Sentada*, 1974, and nearly 30 masterful drawings and watercolors affirming Zúñiga's recognition as one of the greatest draftsmen of the human figure.

This museum quality exhibition is accompanied by the newly published Volumes III and IV of *Francisco Zúñiga, A Catalogue Raisonné*, documenting the artist's body of work, edited and written by Ariel Zúñiga, son and biographer of the artist, and head of the Zúñiga Foundation. This new, two-volume set with nearly 4,000 illustrations is dedicated to the artist's drawings and watercolors.

Zúñiga's monumental works celebrate the female form as an elemental force; sometimes maternal, often as sensual, but always heroic. These sculptures and drawings of women - as matriarch or adolescent - have today become powerful and iconic images. Worldwide recognition of Francisco Zúñiga continues to assert itself as evidenced by the recent world-record setting prices achieved at international auctions.

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Born in Costa Rica, Francisco Zúñiga moved to Mexico in 1936, where his work increasingly gained wide recognition throughout Latin America, Europe, Asia and the United States. Monumental sculptures by Zúñiga are included in the collections of museums internationally. Among the museums in which Zúñiga's works are included are the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C.; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; UCLA Sculpture Gardens; USC; Santa Barbara Museum of Art; San Diego Museum of Art; Phoenix Museum of Art; Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University; Costa Rican Art Museum; Museum of Modern Art, Mexico; Latin American Museum of Art, Buenos Aires; Middleheim Sculpture Garden, Antwerp. The Estate of Francisco Zúñiga is represented by Jack Rutberg Fine Arts.

FRANCISCO ZUÑIGA: Woman as Icon opens September 29 and extends through January 31, 2008 at Jack Rutberg Fine Arts Gallery, located at 357 N. La Brea Avenue, in Los Angeles. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday 10:00 - 6:00; Saturday 10:00 - 5:00. For additional information, phone (323) 938-5222.

Related educational programs will be presented by the gallery. Dates will be forthcoming.

IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

