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MEXICAN ART OF THE 1980'S

The Remba Gallery is pleased to present *Mexican Art of the 1980's*, with artwork by Manuel Felguerez, Mathias Goeritz, Teodulo Romulo, Sebastian, Rufino Tamayo and Francisco Zuniga. The exhibition will take place at 462 N. Robertson Boulevard in West Hollywood from October 27 – January 5. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, October 27 from 6-8 p.m. in conjunction with the West Hollywood Galleries.

The seven artists in the current exhibition played a pivotal role in defining what is known as contemporary Mexican Art. The majority of them rejected the social emphasis of the muralist movement prevalent during their time. Instead, they looked back to their Pre-Colombian roots for inspiration, as well as to European developments in contemporary art for guidance. Each of these artists uses a unique language to express his Mexican roots and to explore the country's rich culture.

The organic compositions by Manuel Felguerez are aesthetic renderings of time and space. Each flattened form is seen in terms of its formal relationship to one another. The fluid, rhythmic movement of these relationships is reminiscent of the Mayans rigid, yet sensitive geometric architecture of their ancient cities.

Mathias Goeritz and Sebastian are well known for their minimal artworks and sculptures. In Goeritz's *Mensaje*, he uses a biblical story as a metaphor for proliferation. The surface of the gold artwork is covered with intricately placed holes making the artwork tactile and appealing. Since Goeritz was Sebastian's mentor, his work is done in the same vein. Sebastian's geometric forms are simple and bright, playful and colorful. In *Encuentro*, the sculptural object illustrated looks three-dimensional as if it is lurching forward into the viewer's space. These artists combine mathematics, intellect and emotion to produce artworks that are inviting, sensuous and urban.

Rufino Tamayo the greatest master of this period derives his richly colored and luminously textured paintings from the ancient roots of Mexican culture, tying the mythological past to the cultural present. He reduces forms and figures into their most essential components and uses his skill as a colorist to breathe life into his subjects. Francisco Toledo's artworks are also derived from Mexican stories and folktales. He often depicts animals native to Mexico, yet they are set in a realm of fantasy indicating that these images are an intimate glance into his private world. Teodulo Romulo's artworks are often the bizarre juxtaposition of an implausible being against a very populated background of familiar things or objects native to his humble past. These humorous compositions lead us to make many different associations among the objects, memories and remembrances since they are in perpetual motion.

Francisco Zuniga's work above all, is a testimony to existence. The serene and introverted human essence that always survives is depicted by mestizo woman whose nation continues to live between greatness and misery, between hope and despair, exposing the breath of life that animates them. Through his nudes, Zuniga responds to the eternal questions concerning the multifaceted identity of Latin America.