

ART NEWS

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LATINO GALLERY: A new downtown gallery dedicated to the vision of Chicano and Latino artists opens Saturday with an inaugural show of works by the gallery's co-owners, Chicano artists Linda Vallejo and Ramses Noriega, as well as works by self-taught newcomer Daniel B. Salazar.

"The Chicano and the entire Latino community are behind us," said Consuelo F. Norte, administrator of Galeria Nueva. "They really want to have this take off, not only because it will open the door to their own personal art, but because it will better communication between [Latinos] and the international community. Art speaks to all nationalities."

Consuelo said that the inaugural show will run through April 7, during which time the gallery would "gather a bank of Latino artists" for future shows. An invitational show will be held in the coming months, she said, as will shows by both emerging and established artists of Latino descent.

"There is a wealth of art and a wealth of artists that have never been addressed because there has been no forum for them," said Norte. "We want to provide a forum for these incredibly talented artists."

Galeria Nueva's grand opening reception will be held Saturday from 6:30-9 p.m. The gallery is at 312 E. 3rd St.