

Linda Vallejo's Art Show Makes Pop Culture Icons Look Mexican

by [Eva Recinos](#)

LA Weekly

February 12, 2013



Cleopatra gets a makeover with a butterfly belly tattoo, characteristic of Mexican culture

Mickey and Minnie Mouse. Cinderella. Venus.

None of these cultural icons escape the humorous, thoughtful hand of artist **Linda Vallejo** for her show "Make 'Em All Mexican" at George Lawson Gallery. Opening this past Saturday, the exhibition gives recognizable images a funny twist as **Vallejo** has turned the characters' skin tan, often adding tattoos.

Vallejo boasts a number of solo shows dating back to 1988 in a number of states, and this same show appeared in 2011 at [Avenue 50 Studio](#).

Inside the gallery, a number of shiny statues stand on different pedestals. The legendary figure Cleopatra gets a butterfly belly tattoo. A reclining Venus figure shows a classical, tan beauty with the Virgin of Guadalupe tattooed onto her back. *Little Brown Boy Celebrating El Dia de Los Muertos* portrays a young, tan boy dressed in dandy clothing, and decorated with traditional Dia de Los Muertos face paint. In the next room, **Vallejo** transforms a number of Disney characters into tan figures as well, in a work of oil and repurposed posters entitled *Makes No Difference Who You Are*.



Mexcellent Video Freak takes on the traditional, classical bust.

The exhibit alludes to the fact that Los Angeles is a meeting place for these two cultures. Boticelli might not approve of his Venus figure transformed into a dark-skinned, tattooed beauty, but Angelenos sure can.

"Make 'Em All Mexican" runs until March 9 at George Lawson Gallery, 8564 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City. (310) 837-6900, georgelawsongallery.com.

<http://www.laweekly.com/arts/linda-vallejos-art-show-makes-pop-culture-icons-look-mexican-4184759>