



Contact: Ronda Spinak at Ronda@jewishwomenstheatre.org

**New Art Show *Chutzpah & Salsa – Our Latino Artists* to Open at
The Braid, Performance and Art Space, in Santa Monica
Jewish Roots, Fertilized by Latina Perspectives Create Unique Multicultural Art
Show**

SANTA MONICA (May 10, 2016) The fusion of Latino culture with Jewish traditions will be explored by four artists in *Chutzpah & Salsa – Our Latino Artists*, a new art show at Gallery @ The Braid, 2912 Colorado Ave., # 102, Santa Monica, with an opening reception, free to the public, from 11AM to 1PM on May 22.

Over the past century, Latino Jews immigrated to America from many South and Latin American countries in which their ancestors settled to avoid certain persecution and death in Europe, Russia or the Middle East. These multiple emigrations exposed the exhibiting artists to diverse cultures that spurred creative representations drawn from both their Hispanic roots and American experiences. Each artist uniquely blends multicultural influence and imagination into artistic expressions and imagery.

Featured artists include:

- **Julio Sims**

Sims's Brazilian-Catholic upbringing joins his current mixed-Jewish family traditions to create art that explores connections to the "diaspora," whether Jewish or Latino. A renowned public artist and solo exhibitionist whose installations grace schools, libraries and government buildings in the Los Angeles area, Sims sees parallels between his Catholic traditions and those of his Jewish wife, such as lighting candles to commemorate deceased family members. "Living in the international, pluralistic society of Los Angeles," he says, "we still feel the need to speak our own language, practice our customs and honor the memory of our lineage and its continuation in the present." www.juliosims.com

- **Patricia Krebs**

Growing up in Buenos Aires, Argentina, multimedia artist Krebs learned the value of every object she encountered. "For me, saving a beautiful object from the trash is worth more than buying anything beautiful," she explains. "Probably because I grew up in a family where even though my basic needs were covered – sometimes with a lot of effort—there wasn't extra money to be spent on superfluous things." Her art focuses on her rescued, found objects which she transforms, via collage, ink and acrylic on canvas, into metaphorical characters with faces designed to "start a dialogue." <http://www.patrickrebs.com.ar/>

- **Florencia Glas**

During World War II, Glas's grandparents emigrated from Poland and Germany to Argentina, where they raised their families Jewish in South America. Her multilingual schooling in Spanish

and Hebrew make her a multilingual collagist who chooses acrylics and mixed media to meld the colors of her Hispanic influences with those of her current Los Angeles life. Glas uses recycled magazines to create textures and pallets in a never-before-seen style that merges her two worlds.

- **Gisele Goldwater-Feldman**

Abstract painter Goldwater-Feldman credits her Mexico City family for her “palette that boldly ranges the spectrum of bright, unadulterated colors.” Her themes come from her ability to combine vibrant hues with the “energy of music and sounds I invoke from memory or hear while creating artwork,” and from her Jewish grandmother’s teachings about “dynamically interpreting life and creating art that engages the artist and the audience.”

www.giselealياهو.com

Chutzpah & Salsa – Our Latino Artists is a companion exhibit to a salon-style show that features stories from Latino writers from Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Panama, Venezuela, Peru and Cuba. Jewish Women’s Theatre (JWT), a home for arts and culture in Los Angeles, will showcase both the theatre performance and the art gallery works at JWT@The Braid, 2912 Colorado Avenue, #102, Santa Monica, beginning on May 22. Chutzpah & Salsa theatre performances will be held throughout Los Angeles, beginning May 15. For more information about both multicultural experiences visit: www.jewishwomenstheatre.org

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