

# JACK RUTBERG FINE ARTS

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## **FRANCISCO ZÚÑIGA: RARE PAINTINGS ON CANVAS & A SURVEY OF ORIGINAL GRAPHICS**

**January 16 - March 13, 2004**

Opening Reception: Friday, January 16, 7-9:30 p.m.

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Los Angeles, CA – A significant exhibition entitled *Francisco Zúñiga: Rare Paintings on Canvas & A Survey of Original Graphics* features one of Mexico's major 20<sup>th</sup> century artists at Jack Rutberg Fine Arts, opening January 16 and extending through March 13, 2004. This major exhibition represents the first time that Zúñiga's oils have been exhibited in the United States, and highlights these extremely rare paintings along with a survey of his original graphic works on paper. Here, as in his iconic sculptures, Zúñiga's imagery celebrates life and its expression through the female form.

This museum quality exhibition is accompanied by the new publication of *Francisco Zúñiga, Catalogue Raisonné: Volume II, Oil Paintings & Original Prints, 1927-1986*. This beautifully printed and definitive hardcover book contains 375 illustrations, along with essays by Ariel Zúñiga (the artist's son) and by Andrew Vlady (master lithographer who often collaborated with Zúñiga). In addition, the book includes an appendix of additions to *Catalogue Raisonné: Sculpture, Volume I*. Collectively, this two volume reference set documents Zúñiga's vast oeuvre and is available through the gallery. A book signing and gallery talk with Ariel Zúñiga will be scheduled with dates to be announced.

Born in Costa Rica, Francisco Zúñiga moved to Mexico in 1936, where his work increasingly gained wide recognition throughout Latin America, Europe, the United States, and Asia, making Zúñiga Mexico's most internationally collected artist. His works are included in major museum collections throughout the world. While his works were acquired by major American museums such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York in the beginning of the 1940s, it is notable that Zúñiga's importance was early realized in California, where his reputation and legions of collectors – both private and institutional – has been particularly formidable for decades. Monumental sculptures by Zúñiga can be found at entrances and sculpture gardens of important Southern California museums such as the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, UCLA Sculpture Gardens, USC, Orange County Museum of Art, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach, and the San Diego Museum of Art.

*Francisco Zúñiga: Rare Paintings on Canvas & A Survey of Original Graphics* opens January 16 and extends through March 13, 2004 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.

**PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**