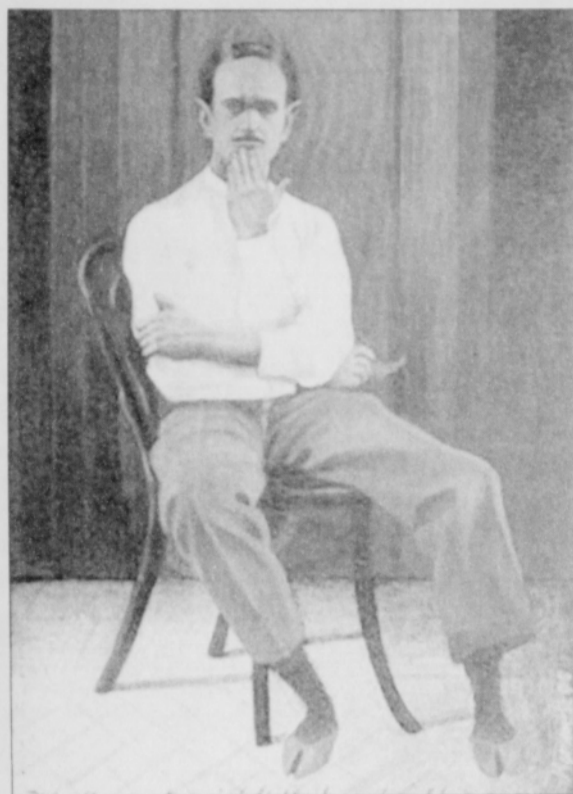


EL OBSERVADOR

Latina Artist Featured at Onda Arte

Painter portrays world with surreal statements



"Politically correct: Not even the devil swears anymore."

Inside her pictorial-literary world, artist Marianela de la Hoz deals with the material and the immaterial, the ordinary and the extraordinary. She depicts the way we live, love and dream, but always with magical details, zoomorphism, strange proportions and exaggerations. The intellectual level of the work is extraordinary but the purpose of the artist is to engage the spectator as a total being, provoking an emotional response.

Her work will be displayed from Aug. 25 to Sept. 27 at the Onda Arte Latina/Cross Currents Gallery, with an artist reception on Aug. 25 from 6 to 9 p.m.

She describes her art as "portraits of reality converted into fantastic



"Erotic dreams under the earthy sheets."

theatrical scenes." Using black humor and sarcasm, her detailed paintings must be seen up close, as the haunting imagery stays with the viewer long after turning away.

Born in Mexico in 1956, Hoz received her art degree from the Metropolitan University in Mexico City in 1978. Since then, she has exhibited in group and solo exhibitions throughout Mexico, in Venezuela, and in the United States. 2005 has been an especially busy year for her, with major solo shows in Mexico and the U.S.

Hoz chooses egg tempura as her medium because the painting technique produces intense color and durability. While oil paintings often begin to crack and yellow within a few years, a properly executed egg tempura painted can be expected to last for centuries without cracking or changing in color. In portraying the complexities of our troubled



"Eating so much hatred makes us sick."

times, these powerful personal statements will have a strong impact for many years to come.

For more information on exhibit hours, visit www.ondagallery.com.

El Salvador Sends 380 Soldiers to Iraq

(AP) - El Salvador sent its fifth contingent of 380 soldiers to Iraq for humanitarian missions last week, a move that President Tony Saca said was in the same spirit as the countries that helped El Salvador during its 12-year civil war.

"El Salvador owes a lot to the international community," Saca said, just before planes carrying the troops took off from the Ilopango air base near the capital.

"This country suffered war, suffered terrorism, and there were a lot of peaceful organizations that came to do humanitarian work, and that's the reason why we are helping out in Iraq," Saca said.

El Salvador is the only Latin American country still participating in the Iraq conflict.

Saca said the troops' humanitarian mission would include "build-



A Salvadoran Army soldier marches to board a plane at a military base. (AP Photo)

ing and rebuilding schools, highways, clinic, local roads and water systems."

El Salvador has been sending humanitarian troops to Iraq since August 2003.

Latino Announcer Lives Dream

Leads play-by-plays for Mariners and Giants

(AP) - When Amaury Pi-Gonzalez was a boy in Cuba, he would flip a broom upside down and pretend to call baseball games. Those days of make-believe are long gone. The sticks and straw have been replaced by real microphones, and instead of broadcasting fake games from his front porch he now looks down upon major league fields from his radio booth.

For the past 30 years, Pi-Gonzalez has been living his dream. And, lately, it's been twice as fulfilling.

The 60-year-old Pi-Gonzalez does Spanish play-by-play for two teams - the Seattle Mariners and the San Francisco Giants - and that leads to lots of frequent flier miles.

"I know most of the pilots on Alaska Airlines," Pi-Gonzalez said.

On a recent weekend, Pi-Gonzalez, who lives in Fremont, Calif., was in San Francisco calling Giants games. Then he flew to Seattle to do broadcasts for the Mariners.

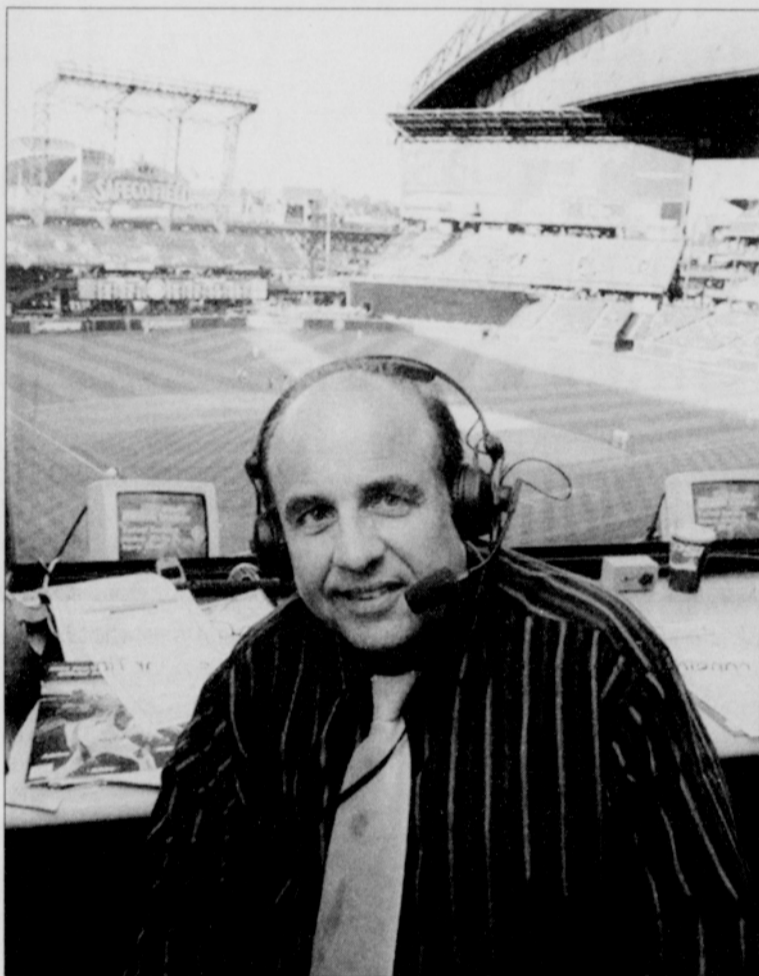
"The fact that he can do this dual broadcasting job is incredible," said Marty Gonzalez, a weekend anchor for KRON-TV in San Francisco and a longtime admirer of Pi-Gonzalez. "He's doing two different teams in two different leagues, which means he has to know every player in major league baseball."

Only a handful of announcers have worked concurrently for two major league teams, including legends Jack Brickhouse and Harry Caray.

By the time the season ends, Pi-Gonzalez will have worked 81 home games for the Mariners and 25 for the Giants. Former San Francisco infielder Tito Fuentes takes his spot when Pi-Gonzalez is in Seattle.

Randy Adamack, vice president of communications for the Mariners, said that the feedback about Pi-Gonzalez from fans has been very positive.

"His delivery is exciting, and the



Amaury Pi-Gonzalez sits in the broadcast booth on Thursday, July 28 in Seattle, prior to a game between the Seattle Mariners and the Cleveland Indians. (AP Photo)

enthusiasm he brings to the booth is great," Adamack said. "It's something you can't teach."

When Pi-Gonzalez gets rare time off to spend at home in the San Francisco Bay area, he works on the autobiography he hopes to finish later this year.

He plans to recount the highlights of his 30 years of broadcasting baseball to Spanish-speaking audiences. He also has done Spanish broadcasts for the Golden State Warriors of the NBA and the Oakland Raiders of the NFL.

Pi-Gonzalez began his career in 1975 doing baseball game re-creations in Spanish, and started broadcasting live in 1979 with the

Oakland Athletics. Pi-Gonzalez recalled that when eccentric Oakland A's owner Charlie Finley first hired him, he sent a messenger to tell him to "go ahead and broadcast the games in Mexican."

After 17 years with the A's, Pi-Gonzalez started doing play-by-play for the Giants in 1994, and began doing double duty with the Giants and Mariners in 2003. In Seattle, he is joined in the broadcast booth by former Mariner Julio Cruz.

In his book, Pi-Gonzalez also will tell of his childhood years in Cuba, when as a passionate young fan he used that broom to emulate the

voice and style of legendary announcer Rafael "Felo" Ramirez, who broadcast Cuban Winter Professional League baseball games for many years.

He later collaborated with his childhood hero in a 1998 playoff game in the United States. Ramirez, 82, now calls games in Spanish for the Florida Marlins.

One of only four Cubans broadcasting in the major leagues, Pi-Gonzalez was inducted last year into the Cuban Sports Hall of Fame in Miami, which he said was "the thrill of a lifetime."

Pi-Gonzalez has interviewed many great Latin American players during his career, but he counts Tony Perez, Fernando Valenzuela and Jose Canseco as the most charismatic. But he said his most memorable interview was with a non-Latin player, home run king Hank Aaron.

The most thrilling moment in his career came during the 1989 World Series between the Giants and the A's when a 7.1 earthquake struck the Bay Area before Game 3. He was doing A's play-by-play for a San Jose station.

"Tenemos un terremoto," he shouted over the air. ("We're having an earthquake.") The station went off the air moments later.

"Candlestick Park was shaking on all sides, the monitors were rocking," Pi-Gonzalez recalled. "I thought it was the end of the world."

More recently, Pi-Gonzalez was calling a game in Seattle when Rafael Palmeiro of the Baltimore Orioles became the first Cuban player to reach 3,000 career hits. Pi-Gonzalez said it was the first time he'd had the chance to call such an achievement by a Latin player.

"ESPN also joked that I was the first Cuban announcer ever to call the first Cuban ever to hit 3,000," Pi-Gonzalez said.

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tween 90% and 95% of all head-aches were due to pressure on the nerves. Your doctor was probably talking about emotional nerves. The research team, of course, was talking

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ropractic, we work with reducing subluxations, releasing the irritation from the nerve fibers. Muscles can relax. The body will no longer send a message of pain and your headaches will be gone for good! If you're tired of hearing that your problem is "just nerves," call us today. We've got the answer to the "just nerves" answer.

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Minorities Grow to Majority in Texas

Texas has now joined Hawaii, New Mexico and California as a majority-minority state, along with the District of Columbia, the U.S. Census Bureau reported. Five states - Maryland, Mississippi, Georgia, New York and Arizona - are next in line with minority populations of about 40 percent.

Estimates in July 2004 stated that Texas had a minority population of 11.3 million, comprising 50.2 percent of its total population of 22.5 million. In comparison, 77 percent of Hawaii's population was minority.

In New Mexico and California, the proportions were 57 percent and 56 percent, while the District of Columbia was 70 percent minority.

California had the largest statewide Hispanic population, with 12.4 million. New York had the largest black population with 3.5 million.