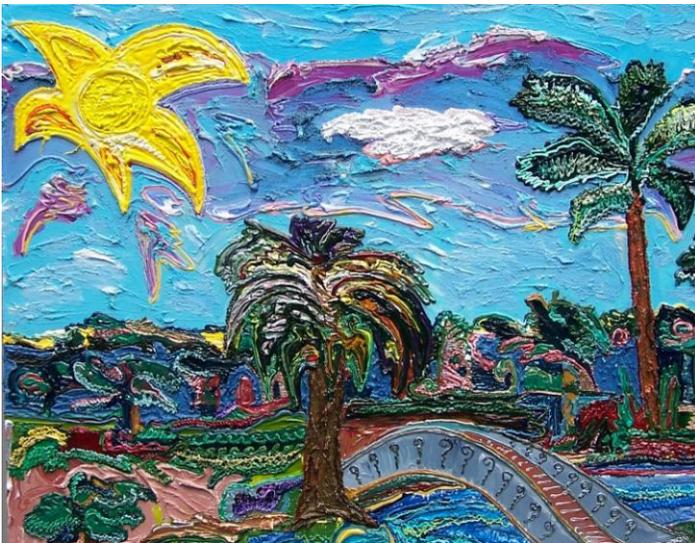




PCCC ART GALLERIES

CARIBBEAN WHISPERS

An Exhibition Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month



New Orleans Park (detail) by Jose Acosta

October 1 – November 10, 2011
Broadway & LRC Galleries

Broadway at Memorial Drive – Paterson, NJ
Monday through Thursday
9:00 am - 9:00 pm

**Accessibility Information Below*

Artist's Reception - October 5

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Exhibit and Reception Open to the Public

ADMISSION FREE

Paintings by

JOSE ACOSTA – WILLIE BAEZ – ROSARIO D'RIVERA – ISABELL VILLACIS

Born in San Jose, Cuba, **Jose Acosta** immigrated to the United States with his family at the age of three. About his colorful vibrant paintings, Acosta says, "I think my background and conditioning are the ingredients. I am very proud of my Cuban heritage as well as my American citizenship. My paintings depict my personal history and surroundings. I paint from my heart and express a little hope and happiness in all my creations." In this exhibit *New Orleans Park* and *Elvis* are excellent examples of the artist's expressive, painterly style.

Willie Baez who has Puerto Rican heritage was born and raised in the East Village of New York City surrounded by art. Baez's paintings and collages create a mystical, idyllic world filled with spirituality and religious themes. He says, "Painting allows me to smooth out some of life's crudeness; to realize peace and tranquility. As creative beings, we have to continuously convey hope and innovative ideas – if only through the visual." In *La Puerta* from his "Solitaires" series, the artist explores the relationship with reality and dreams that inspires him to paint.

Of Cuban heritage, **Rosario D'Rivera** is an artist and graphic designer who also leads workshops for adults and children. Her joyful paintings are filled with color, movement, sensuality, and the female curve. She says, "I am touched by the beauty of nature. My imagination soars when looking at colors in anything as simple as a freshly painted canvas or as complex as a hummingbird in flight." D'Rivera has shown her art in numerous exhibits through out the metropolitan area.

Although **Isabell Villacis** is confined to a wheelchair and has limited use of her arms and legs, she is a talented artist. With a laser light strapped to her head and verbal communication, she is able to show a "tracker artist" where to put the paint on the canvas. She also chooses the colors, shapes, lines and textures for her abstract paintings. Villacis has exhibited her art at various venues, including the Princeton Museum, Trinity Cathedral in Trenton, and the Kessler Rehabilitation Institute.

The various styles and techniques of all four artists reflect their Hispanic heritage.

The exhibit is a partnership with La Ruche Art and Fundacion Manos a la Ayuda.

For additional information, please contact Jane Haw, Gallery Curator, at (973) 684-5448

or visit our website at www.pccc.edu/art/gallery.

The Passaic County Cultural and Heritage Council at Passaic County Community College has been named a Distinguished Arts Organization and is funded, in part, by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment of the Arts. **The Passaic County Community College Art Galleries** strive to maintain a barrier-free facility including complete access for patrons using wheelchairs. Large print materials, FM listening systems, select audio publications and Braille transcriptions are available on request. Please contact (973) 684-6507 for availability.