



Respect and Remembrance
is dedicated to the memory of Andre Walker,
September 6 - May 6, 2007,
and to all artists who recognize and practice
their divine calling.



Respect and Remembrance...
A Participatory Blend of Contemporary
Dia de los Muertos Traditions

offered by the

MAP GALLERY OF MYTH, STORIES
AND LIVING TRADITIONS

808 Lincoln, Auburn CA

October 11-November 9, 2007

Traditional Dia de los Muertos

Centuries ago when the Europeans landed on the Americas, they encountered indigenous people practicing a 3,000 year old ritual. Unable to change or stop the widely practiced rituals or traditions we know today as *Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)* the celebration would eventually become a "catch-all" to include the European *All Saints Day* (November 1), *All Souls Day* (November 2) and even Halloween (October 31). *Dia de los Muertos*, as it is practiced in many metropolitan cities today, is a time for families and communities to pay respect to their deceased loved ones or notable community leaders. It is not uncommon to see large galleries and site-specific exhibitions that are transformed with images of family members, community leaders, artists, saints of all religions, flowers, candles, art works, incense, personal artifacts of the deceased, offerings of sweets, masks, skeletons, skulls and even images of graves and burial grounds as elements in the *Dia de los Muertos* exhibitions.

Respect and Remembrance

Respect and Remembrance is a contemporary and integrative interpretation of traditional *Dia de los Muertos* altars. Having a participatory component, the community is invited to bring or make images/representations that have personal significance for inclusion in the *Altar*. (Items will not be returned.) The Gallery will have a variety of supplies on-hand, including a workspace to prepare materials for the installation. Once the installation is complete, images will be taken and posted on the MAP web site: www.mapgives.com where they can be downloaded or viewed as unique individual and collective contributions of respect and remembrance.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Michelle Walker, BFA & MPA, is the Artistic Director of the *Gallery of Myth, Stories and Living Traditions*, the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Arts Partnership and Founder of the International Society of AltarMaking. Originally trained as a dancer and arts manager, she has been facilitating AltarMaking workshops since 1980. Drawing from her New Orleans ancestry and her interests in Ndebele, Hopi, Bon Po, Tibetan Tantric and Kundalini philosophies and practices, she has integrated these elements into her personal altars and AltarMaking.

Andrea "YaYa" Porras, BFA candidate, is the artists' assistant. She is an actress, dancer, poet and altar artist from Sacramento.

ABOUT THE MAP & THE GALLERY OF MYTH, STORIES AND LIVING TRADITIONS:

Envisioned to evoke the transformative value of historic and contemporary cultural traditions, MAP's Gallery uses the power of myth, stories and imagination to give voice to the universality of cultural traditions. The gallery is an outreach program of the Metropolitan Arts Partnership ("MAP") and is designed to provide a greater presence in the region. The *Gallery of Myth, Stories and Living Traditions* will soon expand to include a workshop and conference series.

The primary programs of MAP are its work place giving *Arts Fund*; the management of the local federal workplace giving program, the *Combined Federal Campaign*; and the gallery outreach program in the *Arts Building* located in Downtown Auburn. The *Arts Building* is a collective of regional artists and arts organizations. MAP's Gallery participates in the quarterly *Art Walk* openings, a program of the Arts Council of Placer County. MAP also maintains an office in mid-town Sacramento; within the historic brick building that houses the 20th Street Art Gallery.

For more information contact, MAP executive director, Michelle Walker, 916.442.4016 or michelle@mapgives.com.