

# Show offers quiet introspection

There is a quiet and introspective, but also thoughtful and thought provoking feel to much of the work in Paul Medina's "Simpatico" show at the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum.

A reception is from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday for the exhibit of mixed media photo collages by the Oklahoma City artist of Spanish and French descent, which went on view May 10.

A statement just inside the entrance of the third floor Tulsa World Gallery said Medina's overriding goal has been "capturing human truths, the ether that binds us all in countless ways."

Cropping lines and other subtle mixed media elements become part of the composition in five photographs of female subjects from Medina's low key, yet evocative "Sad Eyes Series."

These include three women wearing black and gesturing — two with arms or hands folded, the third with arms raised.

Two other women in the series wear white — one under a row of pink roses, with eyes downcast, and the second holding a floral bouquet.

Mixed media elements also add to the impact of a series of four small photos of iconic religious figures which Medina calls "One Our Father, Three Hail Marys."

White baby shoes, displayed in alcoves behind clear plastic, become the crucial element in three nonphotographic mixed media wall

## ART REVIEW

### "Simpatico"

■ **Where:** Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum, 1400 Clasen Drive

■ **When:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays

■ **Admission:** \$7 for adults; \$5 for seniors 62 and over, \$5 for students age six to 17. Group rates are available for parties of 15 or more

■ **Information:** 235-4458 or [www.oklahomaheritage.com](http://www.oklahomaheritage.com)

constructions called "Twice the Love," "The Way Home" and "The Heart of Everyone."

In "The Way Home," perhaps the best of these, smoke seems to be rising through a rusted metal house with a chimney on a platform to the baby shoes, displayed inside a second house shape.

Carved, collaged orchids serve to underline and add emphasis to the pent up expression of a young woman staring back at us, holding her chin in her hands, in Medina's "Hot House Flower" photo-construction.

A woman in a white dress holds a crown in an altar-like collage adorned with cut out flowers and two small candles which Medina calls "All for a



PHOTO PROVIDED BY GAYLORD-PICKENS OKLAHOMA HERITAGE MUSEUM

This photo collage is among Paul Medina's works in his "Simpatico" exhibit.

Bit of Sky" (depicted in a window-like aperture above her head).

A single, golden tear drop, interacting with a loosely handled, semi-abstract background, becomes the focal point of six small works in odd-shaped reddish frames from Medina's "Never Enough Tears Series."

Medina's "Simpatico" show deserves a sympathetic response from visitors during its run through July 2.

— **John Brandenburg**



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Medina's works can be seen at the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum.