

# VIEWPOINT

by Hildy Carrillo - Rivera

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## ALL DRESSED UP AND SOMEPLACE TO GO...huh?

All Dressed Up And Someplace To Go is the title of the art exhibit now on display at the San Diego State University -Imperial Valley Campus Art Gallery. The Gallery on the Calexico Campus is located in the Administration Office on the corner of 7th Street and Heber Avenue. The exhibit features the works of three women artists...Mary Beth Heffernan

of San Diego, Lisa Platt of New York City and Kaucvila Brooke who teaches at Cal Arts Institute in Los Angeles. The exhibit has been on display since February 11 and will be available for public viewing until March 1st.

According to Shiela Dollente, art gallery director and good friend of mine..."This is the first exhibit we have had at the Calexico campus that was designed as a joint exhibit with the San Diego campus gallery. Most of the art was exhibited there in January. It has a strongly feminist theme which challenges the conventions of art, literature, and society that have restricted roles and identities for women".

I visited the SDSU Gallery this week...I had it all to myself with the exception of one female student who seemed to enjoy what she saw...she was quiet...then pensive...then I could hear her chuckle...all in stride...off to class she went, with no mention of being outraged or insulted from what she viewed. It seems that some

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local community folk were quite frankly disgusted with the exhibit...which has a sexual overtone throughout most of the works. Women's bodies are shown on the backside of rabbit pelts...other objects in photographs are given the form of a mans penis and so on and so on...I guess some people don't like to see this kind of stuff...or see too much of it or something...but I really don't think it was anything to be outraged about! Women's breasts and curves are just that...just breasts and curves...a penis is a penis is a penis...just like a rose is a rose is a rose, according to Gertrude Stein!

Anyway...what I did find disgusting were the rabbit pelts...now that I thought was unnecessary...but reading how the artists feels and what she was trying to get across to the viewers...I guess rabbit pelts were the objects to use. The rest of the exhibit was alright...not too exciting and quite frankly I sort of missed the point of it all. Dean Ballesteros mentioned that the number of people coming to see this exhibit has doubled since some people expressed their outrage over the works. I see nothing to get excited about...my congratulations to Shiela Dollente for bringing this exhibit to the Calexico Campus...it is doing what an exhibit should do...tick some people off and it makes everyone have an opinion...artist or not! For those of you that will not be skipping over to the SDSU Gallery...I have photos on page 7...enjoy!

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SOMEPLACE TO GO"

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## CONTROVERSIAL ART EXHIBIT AT SDSU GALLERY

