

# SHEBOYGAN weekend

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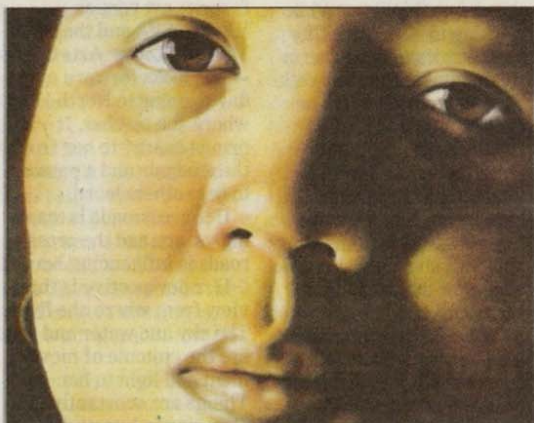
## Obscura features works by Hispanic artists



"Bridge" by Rafael Francisco Salas



"Video Killed The Reality Satire" by Dean Valadez



"Maura" by Maura Vasquez

**EFFJAY PROJEKTS** Gallery will feature an exhibition, "Obscura," featuring paintings by Rafael Francisco Salas (Ripon), installations by Dean Valadez (Milwaukee) and paintings by Maura Vazquez (Green Bay). This exhibition consists of contemporary works that focus on the artists interpreting the world around them through painting and installation.

There will be an artist reception from 5 to 8 p.m. March 31 at EFFJAY PROJEKTS Gallery, 604 Erie Ave., in the lower level. This exhibition runs until April 14.

### Rafael Francisco Salas

Rafael Francisco Salas has been described as "one of the best painters working in Wisconsin today" by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Using landscape along with narrative and symbolic elements, Salas creates artworks that investigate the nature of nostalgia, memory and dreams. His work has been exhibited in New York City, San Diego, Boston and as well as many venues in the Midwest including The Neville Public Museum, The Museum of Wisconsin Art, The John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Dean Jensen gallery, Circa Gallery and Portrait Society gallery.

Salas is currently the chair of the art department at Ripon College in Ripon.

### Dean Valadez

Dean Valadez received his master's of fine arts from Boston University. He also taught at Boston, at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design and currently at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

He has exhibited nationally in Chicago, Boston, Dallas, New Haven, Manhattan, Pennsylvania and Washington D.C.; locally

at the Milwaukee Art Museum, Haggerty Museum, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Schauer Arts Center, Ripon College, Sharon Lynn Wilson Center and other venues.

His artwork publications include "From Here to There," "BookForum," and "New American Paintings." His lectures include "Swarm Intelligence and Superstructures" at UW-Milwaukee, "Embodiment and Mass Communications: Cyber and Mechanistic Perceptions of the Body" at the 12th Biennial for Arts and Technology at Connecticut College, and "Remix Theory and Remix Culture" at the FATE Biennial in St. Louis.

His written publications include "Embodiment and Mass Communications" for the 12th Biennial, and "The Chimerian Man: Notes On A Remix Culture" for the e-magazine RCP.MLK2000.

### Maura Vazquez

Maura Vazquez received her bachelor of the arts from UW-Green Bay. Her paintings have been exhibited at the Neville Public Museum, Lawton Gallery and 407 Gallery in Green Bay. She has received numerous awards such as the Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award, Distinguished Painting Award and Faculty Development Center Purchase of Art Award. Vazquez's work is influenced by her Catholic faith, which helps her make the best of her family and art as sources of inspiration and strength.

Gallery hours are Thursday and Fridays from 5 to 8 p.m.; Saturdays from 11 to 3 p.m. and by appointment.

Contact Frank Juarez at 920-559-7181 or [effjayprojekts@gmail.com](mailto:effjayprojekts@gmail.com) for more information about this exhibit or inquiries about the artists' work.