

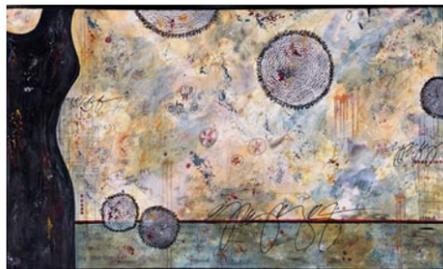
Duke Energy Center in Raleigh

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importantly, her art work supports women and encourages them to always believe in themselves.

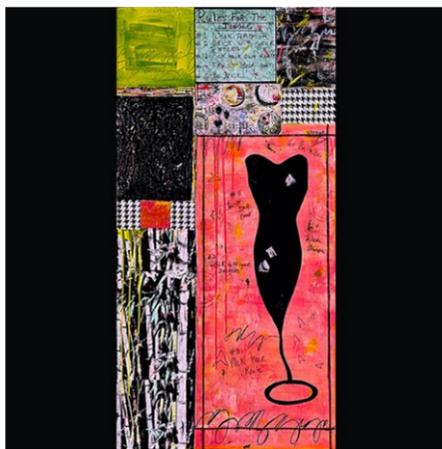
Her exhibition could not be more timely in celebrating and championing women, considering that it started in March, National Women's History Month.

"From the tedious and mundane to the profound and universal, her Little Black Dress is the narrator, telling stories about how women move through the world. Her symbol, like the dress itself, is practical, versatile, durable and sexy when it wants to be, offering the wearer a sense of freedom and independence," writes Frances Gardner, Professor Emerita, University of South Carolina, Lancaster, and curator of the show.



Work by Lisa Stroud

Just think about some of Stroud's titles for the art and the everyday stories these paintings reveal about women as individuals, in their relationships, in politics or at work: *When He Kisses Her Forehead*, *She Explodes into Flowers*, *If You Want Perfection*, *Find Yourself a Mannequin*, and *A Woman's Place is in the House*, (US



Work by Lisa Stroud

House of Representatives, that is!).

Stroud has worked in the permanent collections of the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Myrtle Beach Art Museum, and the Maria V. Howard Arts Center. She was a finalist in the 2010 *Artist's Magazine* Annual Competition and won Best in Show in *54th National Juried Art Show* at Maria V. Howard Art Center. Her work was selected for the 2011 Artspace *Three-Person Curated Biennial Exhibition*, and she was juried into the prestigious annual Artfields competitions of 2015, 2016, and 2017 in Lake City, SC.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Lisa Stroud by calling 919/233-0756, curator Frances Gardner at 803/287-0760 or visit (www.lisastroudart.com).

Diamante Arts & Cultural Center in Raleigh, NC, Features Works by Rosalia Torres Weiner

The Diamante Arts & Cultural Center (DACC) in Raleigh, NC, celebrated Women's History Month by showcasing the art of Mexican Charlotte-based artist, Rosalia Torres Weiner, with a solo exhibition, *Mi Gente, Un Reflejo / My People, A Reflection*, started Mar. 25 and continues through May 13, 2022.

"We are delighted that this artist, activist, and community leader (Rosalia Torres Weiner) will be exhibiting her work at the DACC," said Lizette Cruz Watko, Founder & Executive Director of the Diamante Arts & Cultural Center. "Rosalia's exhibition is the first solo show at the new DACC location," added Cruz Watko.

Torres Weiner's work celebrates the rich history and changing demographics of the South. She uses her art to document social conditions and raise awareness about issues affecting immigrant communities like family separation, racism, and moving beyond common stereotypes.



Work by Rosalia Torres Weiner

"My work is focused on celebrating and sharing the stories of the LatinX community," says Torres Weiner. "Over the past 2 years, I have watched our community come through the Pandemic, often as unseen essential workers, and unsung heroes. At the same time, many of the issues that our community has been fighting to change are still here, so I feel it is important to continue to tell stories of people like the Dreamers, and stories about how LatinX people are enriching the communities that we live in and America as a whole."

"I'm honored to share Torres Weiner's



Work by Rosalia Torres Weiner

work surveying different stages of her career that include paintings, mixed media, and furniture," said Peter Marin, DACC's Curator of Exhibitions. *Mi Gente, Un Reflejo* bears witness to her dedication to her community, *Mi Gente*, and her art," he added.

As part of the exhibition, selected paintings Torres Weiner is bringing to the exhibition will feature. RedCalacAR, is a free app developed by her husband Ben Weiner for her "Dreamers" series, which allows people to hear each painting's subject speak their own story.

This free iOS app allows iPhone and iPad users to unlock additional stories and narratives when viewing these images of the Dreamers series. To download the free app, visit the apple store and search from the Red CalacAR. Once the app is started, select "Live Gallery" and then use your phone's camera to listen to their stories.

This exhibition is made possible by funding from the NC Arts Council and First Citizens Bank. It is supported in part by a grant from the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, the Triangle Community Foundation, and the Wells Fargo Foundation.

The Diamante Arts & Cultural Center is a non-profit (501c3), a community grounded, arts and culture organization dedicated to

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Triangle Art Works is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing services, support and resources to the visual and performing arts and creative industries.

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the preservation, development, and promotion of the culture, heritage, and artistic expressions of the diverse Latino/Hispanic population in North Carolina. DACC is located at 5104 Western Blvd., Suite B,

Raleigh, NC. Hours are Tue.-Fri., from 11am-5pm.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or call 919/852-0075 or visit (diamanteacc.org).

Editor's Note: I've added the following info which was taken from the PBS North Carolina feature, *My Home, NC*, about Rosalia Torres Weiner:

The activist's art truck

The food truck scene has been booming in recent years, making way for possibilities far beyond the typical ice cream truck. When Charlotte native Rosalia Torres Weiner saw this trend in her city, she too made the move to go mobile. This time, not with food, but with art.

"I thought about an art truck because it's necessary," she said. "Working with these children and the families... They don't have access to transportation or they're afraid."

Torres Weiner is an "activist," or artist and activist, whose paintings focus on immigration and social justice. She also brings art-making to communities that don't have access to art with her Red Calaca truck.

"Having an art truck and bringing the art truck and the art right outside their doors is very special. I remember a little boy, he came and hugged me, he said, 'This is the best day of my life,'" she said.

Helping children heal with The Magic Kite

Torres Weiner wants to help children specifically affected by the deportation of family members. She's provided them a way to heal through art with The Magic Kite project, inspired by her own childhood.

"In Mexico, when I was a little kid, my mom used to take us to kite festivals. A kite is a symbol of Mexico and I invited children to come to my studio and create

a kite with me so they could tell their stories," she said. "My idea was to glue their little story that they drew on a piece of paper on the kite, and then fly it. For me, it was like a way to let it go. You're going to be ok."

Sending a message with her art

An established artist herself, Torres Weiner has paintings in the city of Charlotte and in the Smithsonian.

One of her murals in Charlotte depicts the skyline of the city with Our Lady of Guadalupe, and butterflies that represent members of the Latino community coming there.

She uses bright colors and purposeful details to tell their stories.

"These are heartbreaking stories. Families being separated by deportation. People didn't know that the deportations were happening in Charlotte, and I needed to do something with my art," she said.

Before her success as an activist, she encountered some who were skeptical about what she was trying to do in her career.

"When I started painting about immigration and social justice, a lot of my friends, artist friends, they said, 'You're not going to sell. You're not going to make it.' And I said, 'I'm not here to sell, I'm here to send a message.'"

As an artist, her continued focus is on her message and telling people's stories

"It's not like I just paint," she said. "I talk to people, I listen and then I create art. I tell them that they can tell their stories, they can express themselves and especially, I tell them, art heals."

Learn more about Rosalia Torres Weiner's art on the website at (<https://redcalacastudio.com/>).

Cedar Creek Gallery in Creedmoor, NC, Offers Annual Pottery & Glass Festival - Apr. 1 - 10, 2022

Cedar Creek Gallery in Creedmoor, NC, will present its 53rd Annual Spring Pottery & Glass Festival, held on Friday, Apr. 1, from 3-9pm; Sat. & Sun., Apr. 2 & 3, from 10am-6pm; and Sat. & Sun., Apr. 9 & 10, from 10am-6pm. Celebrate the joy of craft and creativity!

Click here to see the schedule of festival events at (<https://cedarcreekgallery.com/blogs/news/53rd-annual-spring-pottery-glass-festival-schedule-of-events>).

On a normal day at Cedar Creek, visitors browsing the gallery and gardens can catch glimpses of studio artists at work through an open doorway or window. During the Pottery and Glass Festival, we invite guests to come out, meet the artists, and learn what it takes to create the beautiful craft they see at the gallery.

The first two weekends in April, during our 53rd Annual Spring Pottery and Glass Festival, you'll have the opportunity to observe glass blowing, pottery, raku firing, and wood-turning demonstrations from Cedar Creek studio artists and visiting guest artists.

While you're here, purchase plants from the nursery and ask the horticulturalists your questions about plants and gardening, and learn the rich history of Cedar Creek on a History Walking Tour of the gallery and grounds.

Come see these nationally recognized artists sharing the techniques and skills they use to create their work, from the kernel of an idea through the process of transforming glass, clay, and wood. They'll take time to

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