

**Gerardo Monterrubio**

**“Clay Street”**

**September 1 – October 31, 2009**

**GALLERY**  
**Armstrong's**



La Matlazihua, 2009, Underglaze pencil on porcelain  
8” x 8” x 8”



Sed, 2008, Underglaze pencil on porcelain  
4.5” x 10.5”

On any given night, anywhere in Los Angeles, you will find people in the streets. Nothing is really happening; nothing of significance is going on, just people living. There are people on an evening paseo and others going to work or coming home from a late shift. Some might be up to no good and others still just enjoying the night, whichever way they choose to. This is the city life you will see depicted in Gerardo Monterrubio's ceramic work.

“Clay Street” is a telling exhibit where playfulness, acquiescence, spirituality and maybe even fear are revealed in. We are lead to witness people working in the fields and waiting on street corners for the city bus. We are shown people simply lollygagging in the streets, while others are carousing and fighting. Monterrubio's detailed drawings illuminants a city filled with life. He has no fear of depicting the brutality and oppression of domestic violence or worshipers praying to the Madonna. This is the city life that is often overlooked when one passes through it. This is a city that is feared at night by those who do not dwell in it. So often, the Los Angeles street culture is vilified by those ‘outsiders,’ but with the help of clever muralists and graffiti artists, the life they have seen is amplified for all to appreciate and learn from. We are given the full breath of what it is to live in the city. This is the city of angels, from where Los Angeles is derived from.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monterrubio is paying homage to the tradition of storytelling through murals by placing the story on accessible and common contemporary objects. His monochromatic scenes depict his own stories and imagination. His work also describes other peoples' experiences while existing and thriving in various Los Angeles neighborhoods. The style of imagery is a fusion of graphite prison drawings, etchings, tattoo and graffiti art but the move from the wall to milk jugs and beer bottles is astonishing. It moves the street life from outside to inside the home and places it one step further to shared and common life experiences.

Monterrubio says his work "reflects social, political and religious aspects of contemporary society..." Gerardo was born in Oaxaca, Mexico and relocated to Los Angeles at the age of ten. He currently works in his Los Angeles studio and is studying art at California State University, Long Beach.

Gerardo Monterrubio's work will be on exhibition from September 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31, 2009. The opening reception for the exhibition will be held on Saturday, September 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. A second reception will be held on Saturday, October 10 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Armstrong's is located at 150 East 3rd Street Pomona, Calif., 91766. The gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 4: 30 p.m. and every second Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

CONTACT: Armstronggallery@verizon.net  
HOURS: Tuesday – Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
LOCATION: 150 East 3rd Street Pomona, CA 91766  
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**[www.armstronggallery.net](http://www.armstronggallery.net)**