

Public Art in the 1980's

Significant public art continues to be produced in the 1980's. There are, however, important differences in the characteristics and circumstances of production of murals and posters in the present decade; differences that are in contrast to public art in the 1970's. There are proportionately fewer Chicanos producing public art in the 1980's. The largest number of artists are Mexican-born or visitors from Central and South America. Two organizations that actively support public art in the 1980's are El Centro de la Raza, Seattle, and the Concilio for the Spanish Speaking, Seattle.



Cynthia Martínez



Maximón Clavo

Two covers of *La Voz*; the News Magazine of the Concilio For the Spanish Speaking, published monthly featuring regional Chicano and Latino Artists.

The Concilio for the Spanish Speaking has provided visibility for regional Chicano and Latino artists by featuring their work in poster, magazine cover formats and in magazine articles. Often, works appearing as posters are also seen on the magazine covers. Maximón Clavo is a pseudonym used by a Seattle physician. The *La Voz* cover presents his drawing, *Mujer Contemplando*. Cynthia Martínez is currently the designer for *La Voz*.



Alfredo Arreguín, *Fiestas Patrias*, poster, featuring a painting, color offset, 1982, 20 x 29 in. Courtesy of the artist. Sponsored by the Concilio for the Spanish Speaking, Seattle, Washington, Mexicana Airlines in cooperation with the Seattle Arts Foundation, and Northwest Rural Opportunities.

Mexican-born Alfredo Arreguín's primary artistic activity is the production and exhibition of his art in major museums and galleries. Arreguín has made important artistic and cultural contributions to both the Spanish-speaking and mainstream communities through his posters as well as his personal work.

Alejandro Canales, *Nicaragua Quiere Paz (Nicaragua Wants Peace)*. Study for a portable mural, El Centro de la Raza, 1983. Funding support from the Seattle-Managua Sister City Association.



Alejandro Canales is a Nicaraguan-born artist who produced two murals in the Northwest in 1983. One was produced at El Centro de la Raza, Seattle, and another at the Eugene Council for Human Rights in Latin America, Eugene, Oregon. Canales also assisted Francisco (Pancho) Letelier in the production of another mural in Eugene.