



# EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

## **FACT SHEET**

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## **THE SHOW:**

Hope, liberty, and justice for all is Raúl Manzano's central theme at his exhibit "**Icon or Myth?**" The exhibition features the Statue of Liberty as a questionable symbol of freedom and democracy in modern times. With vibrant colors and a personal visual language, the paintings engage the viewer's emotions and invite reflection on today's important world events.

## **OPENING RECEPTION:**

Public reception Thursday, October 23, 5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

## **GALLERY HOURS:**

October 20 - December 20, 2008, Monday - Friday, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM.  
By appointment (646) 230-1273

## **WHERE:**

Metro Gallery, Empire State College  
325 Hudson Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, New York, NY 10013

## ABOUT

### RAÚL MANZANO:

Raúl Manzano's paintings reflect on socio-economic, cultural, environmental and political issues. His artworks in oils, watercolors, pastels and drawings raise viewers' awareness and social consciousness. Iconic symbols such as the American flag and Statue of Liberty are his main concepts. He has curated and presented solo and group exhibitions in the United States, Canada and Israel.

In 1985, he had his first solo exhibition "Landscapes" in Toronto, Canada, under the auspices of the Colombian Consulate of that city. Twenty percent of the proceeds went to the victims of the Nevado del Ruiz volcano disaster, in Armero, Colombia.

His group projects include shows with the West Side Arts Coalition in New York and Ashkelon, Israel, and the Prevailing Human Spirit fund-raising exhibition to help September 11 Charities organized by the Society of Illustrators in New York City.

Some of his artworks were auctioned to raise money for Verizon's New York Hispanic Support Organization Scholarship Fund and for the non-profit Long Island for Colombia's "Proyecto Buenaventura 2006," a housing project for the poor.

Mr. Manzano has been the Resident Director of the School of Visual Arts' Summer Arts Abroad program "Painting in Barcelona," Barcelona, Spain, and arts mentor at Empire State College where he teaches art history and drawing courses. He is also the former President of the West Side Art Coalition, a non-profit organization that supports and promotes the arts.

Mr. Manzano graduated from La Academia de Dibujo in Colombia and received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the School of Visual Arts (SVA) and his Master of Arts degree from Empire State College/SUNY, both in New York.

### **AWARDS AND HONORS:**

- 2006 Service Award, for outstanding academic contribution and community service, Empire State College, New York, NY
- 2004 Appreciation Award, for artistic contribution to the Latino Culture, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Hackensack, NJ
- 2000 The Medal of the City, for service to the arts, awarded by Mayor Benny Vaknin, Municipality of Ashkelon, Ashkelon, Israel
- 1998 – 1999 Appreciation Award, for artistic contribution to Hispanic Heritage. Asociación de Hijos y Amigos de Colombia, Paterson, NJ
- 1986 top-three finalist at the Wildlife & Environmental Art Show, Los Angeles Audubon Society, Los Angeles, CA
- 1986 Art Achievement Awards Nominee, Artists' Society International, San Francisco, CA

**PAST**

**EXHIBITIONS:**

Solo Exhibitions

- 2008 Metro Gallery, Empire State College, New York, NY
- 2007 Callahan Gallery, St. Francis College, Brooklyn, NY
- 2004 Fairleigh Dickinson University, Hackensack, NJ
- 2003 Colombian Consulate, New York, NY
- 2000 The Paterson Museum, Paterson, NJ
- 1985 Colombian Consulate, Toronto, Canada

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2004-2008 Empire State College, New York, NY
- 2003 Equity Properties, Manhattan Arts International, New York, NY
- 2000-2002 Manhattan Borough President's Gallery, New York, NY
- 2002 Museum of American Illustration, New York, NY
- 2001 Arsenal Gallery, New York, NY
- 2000 Khan Museum, Ashkelon, Israel
- 2000 Queens Museum of Art, Queens, NY
- 1998-1999 Asociación de Hijos y Amigos de Colombia, Paterson Museum, NJ
- 1995-1999 West Side Arts Coalition, New York, NY
- 1996 School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
- 1987 Los Angeles Audubon Society, Los Angeles, CA
- 1986 Artist's Society International, San Francisco, CA
- 1985 Oller-Campeche Gallery, New York, NY

**WEB SITE:**

[www.raul-manzano.com](http://www.raul-manzano.com)