



*Memories* by Cila Montesinos

# Stitching Stories of Miracles and Memories: *Cuadros* from the Peruvian Women of Pamplona Alta

## EXHIBITION FACT SHEET

### SPONSORED BY: Con/Vida – Popular Arts of the Americas

Curated by Rebecca Berru Davis in collaboration with Con/Vida  
Co-Directors: Barbara Cervenka, O.P. and Marion Jackson, Ph.D.

### DESCRIPTION:

*Stitching Stories* is an exhibition that features embroidered and appliquéd fabric pictures called *cuadros*, created by the women of two art cooperatives, *Manos Anchashinas* and *Compacto Humano*, located in Pamplona Alta, a shantytown situated on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. Featured in this exhibition are *cuadros* representing typical themes produced, as well as a special commissioned project called *Miracles and Memories*.

For the women artists, the *cuadros* serve a variety of purposes. Making and selling the art is an important economic enterprise that provides them with a way to support their families. *Cuadros* are also an avenue of self-expression, a means to demonstrate artistic skill, and a tangible way to create visual narratives of previous life in the countryside, experiences of migration, and current realities in the shantytowns. Whether the subjects are pastoral or political in nature, women depict themselves as integral members of their families and important participants in the events that shape their communities. With bits of cloth, textured fabric, and colored thread, the women of Pamplona Alta stitch together stories that underscore transitions in their lives, illuminate episodes of generosity in a Peruvian shantytown and in doing so make us attentive to the deeper meanings of joy and abundance.

### CONTENTS:

About thirty *cuadros* in varying sizes, ready to hang (the smallest 10"x10" and the largest 38"x56"), contextual photos, labels, and documentary materials.

### TERMS:

Rental: \$300.00 for one month, \$100 for each additional month, plus shipping (via UPS) and insurance. The exhibition is packed in one or two cardboard boxes. Shipping costs are usually less than \$100 one way in the continental U.S. All proceeds related to rental, help support the women and their art, as well as the on-going research and advocacy work related to the project.

### EXHIBITION SCHEDULE:

*Stitching Stories of Miracles and Memories* opened on September 19, 2010 at the Dennis Museum Center, Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, Michigan.

### CONTACT:

Rebecca Berru Davis [berrumt@yahoo.com](mailto:berrumt@yahoo.com)  
Barbara Cervenka, O.P. [bcervenk@comcast.net](mailto:bcervenk@comcast.net)  
Marion Jackson [mjackson@wayne.edu](mailto:mjackson@wayne.edu)  
TechOne at TechTown, #511  
440 Burroughs  
Detroit, MI 48202  
313-405-6443 or 734-996-1432