

arts INSIGHTS

A page about artists and The Arts at Work by the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District in collaboration with the Northeaster.



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13th Ave. development draws overflow crowd

The meeting room was overflowing with well over 100 people at East Side Neighborhood Services as community members listened to information and questions about a potential new development August 26. It would take out three duplexes and a parking lot next to The Anchor Fish & Chips on 13th Avenue, and put up a 5-story 108-unit apartment

The developers, seeking some adjustments from the city to allow them to build, said they wanted to hear from the residents of adjoining properties. Asked if and how they would become part of community life, they essentially said we're bringing you a nice building and new residents, that's it. They stated their art budget is about \$200,000 per building and most of that would go to Minneapolis artists.

The most vocal in the room were opposed to the development, but the Sheridan Neighborhood Organization board of directors did not take a vote. While the developers said they have purchase agree-



ments on the properties, they don't own them yet.

Whatever your opinion, it is good to see so many arts district residents coming out and raising the bar on what passes for development. We encourage all to keep attending this type of meeting.

More food for thought: Homeowners can forestall development by being aware of property coming up for sale and buying it or recruiting friendly owner occupants or investors who keep it as "naturally occurring affordable housing." Be ready to do this many times over as investors change their minds.

-by Josh Blanc, photo by Damian Kussian



lucky 70/suerte

More info at www.dougiepadilla.com.

Exhibition Dates: Friday, September 6 - October 12, 2019. Opening reception: Sept. 6, 7-11 p.m. Gallery Hours: Weds. thru Sat. 3-8 p.m. or by appointment. **Conversation with Karen Mary Davalos, Ph.D.**: Thursday, September 12, 7-9 p.m. Dougie Padilla Poetry Performance/Book Launch: Thursday, Sept. 26, 7-9 p.m. Dougie Padilla Artist Talk: Thursday, Oct. 3, 7-9pm

At left: Self Portrait @67.5: Your Job is to Walk Between Worlds (Medicine Dreams), 2016

lucky 70 (suerte): New work by Dougie Padilla

Rogue Buddha Gallery will host its first solo exhibition for art legend, visionary and guru Dougie Padilla. Open September 6 (reception 7-11 p.m.) through October 12, 2019, there will also be special events.

Poet, painter, spirit dancer, Padilla encapsulates all that it is to be an artist. At the heart of his work exists a soul that has traversed the world and lived many lives: from artist to businessman, to communal farmer, to humble meditative disciple in India.

His paintings hint at his many and diverse travels, but not just those of the earthly plane. One look at his work and the viewer knows instantly that they are dealing with a subject matter that cannot be tethered to this world alone. Padilla presents visions of other worlds, dimensions and realities previously uncharted. He documents these travels with a stylistic voice and authority all his own. Undaunted by a lack of academic art training, Padilla relies on intuition, gut instinct, meditative visions, tenacity, patience and the spirit of the moment to guide and

give form to what might be likened to prayers or mantras.

Deep seated inspirations find voice in his art by way of subjects portrayed. These subjects often include life, death, good vs. evil, heritage, ghosts, friendship, mysticism, sweetness and beauty, to name a few. With an obsessive attention to detail and his use of every morsel of working surface, these works take on the feel of religious icons or spiritual talismans. They seemingly convey archetypal truths via visual metaphor and allegory. And while his work can easily be described as colorful, unapologetic, bold, vibrant, it may ultimately be distilled into one word: energetic. Each and every painting, drawing or print bursts with, and emanates, the stuff life is

made of: energy.

Now at age 70, and with numerous accomplishments to his name, Dougie Padilla again offers us a splendid opportunity to peer into his world while sharing his energy with us. lucky 70 (suerte) highlights select recent works from the past

ten years. These include paintings, drawings, original prints, tile work and an immersive ofrenda/ altar installation featuring numerous calaveras (Day of the Dead skulls). But this exhibition celebrates much more than an illustrious art career or his newest body of work. lucky 70 (suerte) celebrates the creative principle, heritage, God and life itself. These are, after all, the very ingredients of which this artist is made.

-by Nicholas Harper

This exhibit is made possible through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board



NEMAA & Arts District meet

Those who have followed the history of NEMAA (Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association) and the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District might be pleased to know that the two organization's leadership boards had a joint picnic in August at Logan Park.

Many of board members have known each other for decades. For others this was the first time they had met each other.

The groups learned about each organization's goals and explored ways to support each other's projects and concerns. Those include sponsoring ways to gather community opinion on Mayor Jacob Frey's



budget for Central Avenue as a cultural corridor, and development/ density in general.

The two groups will help promote each other's programming and work to streamline communication between the two organizations.

Straightline Kids Classes start 10/1 www.straightlinedancefitness.com





NEMAA's 10x10 fundraiser

Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association, NEMAA, will hold a fundraising event September 21. 2019 from 5-9 p.m., in the Third Floor Gallery (332), Northrup King Building, 1500 Jackson St NE in the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District, Minneapolis MN 55413.

This show will display a wide breadth of work by hundreds of Northeast artists, all in a 10-by-10inch format. New emerging artists will be side by side with seasoned professionals. An added wrinkle will be the fun and mysterious nature of the show; artwork will be labeled on the back, so buvers will choose

whe Anchor

Fish & Chip's

pieces they love and only discover the artists' identity at check-out. Can you spot work by an artist you

Discover new artists and take home

Every piece will be for sale for \$35 and all proceeds go to NEMAA. (Artists looking to donate artwork, see NEMAA.org for a link – due September 14.)

Special Preview Hour Tickets Available: Get first dibs on hundreds of pieces of art ahead of the public opening. At 4 p.m., September 21st. \$50 per ticket. Limited quantities available.



Apply for District 365

The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District's "District 365" program will direct visitors to one featured working artist's studio any day between noon and 5 p.m. The time frame emphasizes what's unique about the Arts District—the fact that primarily, it's a place where artists

Meet Minneapolis, folks who staff the Visitors Center downtown, and the Northeaster newspaper will be engaged to promote the newlyredesigned District website: www. northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.

"District 365" will launch on Open District weekend, November 1. 2. and 3. The calendar is available for listing other District events.

For more info on the calendar and District 365, artists and interested public alike, can visit northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.

