Greetings!
Welcome to In the District: news from the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District.

Solo Exhibition for Art Legend
by Nick Harper

LUCKY 70 SUERTE NEW WORK BY DOUGIE PADILLA

Exhibition Dates: September 6th - October 12th 2019
Gallery Hours: Wed-Sat 3-8pm or by appointment
Conversation with Karen Mary Davalos, Ph.D.: September 12th, 7-9pm
Dougie Padilla Poetry Performance/Book Launch: September 26th, 7-9pm
Dougie Padilla Artist Talk: October 3rd, 7-9pm

Rogue Buddha Gallery announces its first solo exhibition for art legend, visionary and guru Dougie Padilla. 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 seeded 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 the age of 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.

Dougie Padilla is available at www.dougiepadilla.com.

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

It is like Brian Eno is speaking directly to NE Minneapolis

Brian Eno message - Don't get a job

13th Ave Development Draws Overflow Crowd and Fights Back Developer
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 building.

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 agreements 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: Home-owners 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

Support the Arts District

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Your donation is tax deductible!

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District participate in "District 365" by opening to the public on one featured day of your choice* noon to 5p.m. (or longer). Visitors often expect an arts scene to be galleries and shops; we offer the opportunity to see art being created. It's recommended to have a demo or interactive activity available, and the artist is encouraged to charge, particularly for booking agents planning tours.

The artist featured each day will be posted on NortheastMinneapolisArtsDistrict.org and that listing may be finessed to promote other events happening same day or additional artists working nearby. Meet Minneapolis and the Northeaster newspaper are collaborating with the Arts District to promote these interactions. Detailed outline at http://northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org/programs/district-365-program along with an easy to email application form. For further info: Margo Ashmore, Northeast Minneapolis Arts District board member/volunteer at district365@northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org or 612-867-4874.

The program will launch November 1, and it's hoped to schedule that first month by end of September. Artists not in the district may team up with artists who are (see the outline for details). The Arts District boundaries are Broadway to 26th Avenue NE, Central Avenue to the Mississippi River.

*First-come, first-served with priority given to artists in buildings with events those same days.

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NEMAA 10×10 Fall Member Fundraiser

The NEMAA 10×10 Fall Member Fundraiser, taking place on September 21, 2019 from 5-9pm, will display a wide breadth of work being done by hundreds of Northeast artists, all in a 10-inch by 10-inch 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 buyers will choose pieces they love and only discover the artists' identity at check-out. Can you spot work by an artist you follow? Discover new artists and take home original art! Every piece will be for sale for $35.00 and all proceeds go to NEMAA.

How it works
Eligible to all NEMAA artists who would like to exhibit and donate their 10×10-inch work for the NEMAA 10×10 member fundraiser. You may choose to donate artwork that is indicative of your classic style, or try something completely different. You can donate as many pieces as you would like.

Materials
We are asking for original unframed and unmounted artwork that fits within a 10×10-inch parameter.

- For 2D works: Paintings, drawings, photography, mixed media works, and collages made on stiff heavy-weight paper (artwork will be clipped to wire for hanging display). Please indicate the top of the artwork with a penciled arrow on the back. Sign and Print Name on the BACK of each piece (not the front!).
- For 3D works: Small-scale sculpture, ceramics, wood, jewelry, and metal pieces that can fit into the 10×10 format. NEMAA will coordinate display either on pedestals or wire.

Print and include the submission form. Please include one submission form for each piece of artwork being submitted. For 2D, protect artwork with wax or glassine wrap and thin cardboard.

Deadline: NEMAA will be accepting artwork until Saturday, September 14, 2019. Feel free to submit early!

Click here to learn more

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Three Main Goals of Arts District Planning

1. Continue to discuss who we are as a community.
2. Continue to define the vision of the next 10 to 15 years, in order to drive the decision making.
3. Start a framework on how we can finance the goals of the district. This goal is only possible to discuss if the other two goals can be met.

Recent studies to consider reading:
1. The Creative Vitality Index 2018 Click to read
2. The Creative Vitality Index 2015 Update. Click to read.
3. The Creative Vitality Index 2014 Update. Click to read.
4. The Minneapolis Creative Index 2013 Report. Click to read.

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The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District & the Arts District Committee is an outcome of the Arts Action Plan.

"The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District Committee is comprised of interested volunteer community members, and is fiscally managed by the Northeast Community Development Corporation (NECDC). Additional support has been provided by Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA), Clay Squared to Infinity, Northeaster News, California Building Co.

Want to get involved? Contact us