

One Perfect Morning

Artists: Juan Luna-Avin & Julio Cesar Morales

May 2007

Ryland Dog Park / 26 Ryland Park Dr., San Jose, CA 95112 / Council District 3



View of digital mural

ABOUT THE PROJECT

One Perfect Morning is a digitally-printed banner inspired by the residents, landscape and history of the Vendome neighborhood.

The computer-generated artwork is a layering of images including illustrated photographs of trees and foliage, photographs with hand-drawn images represent the past histories, while the digital illustrations capture elements of the current and future aspects of the Vendome neighborhood. The artwork incorporates portraits of residents as well landmarks such as the Vendome hotel. The mix of past and present imagery creates a design that brings to light the important history of Vendome and a common visual language amongst its current residents.

The artists met with local residents at a large community gathering. They collected stories and took community portraits to identify images, colors, and interests that would help to convey elements of the history, the present and future of the neighborhood. Community members expressed a strong interest that “Vendome” would be incorporated into the design as a means of welcoming people to the neighborhood.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Juan Luna-Avin was born in Mexico City and lives in Mountain View. He earned his BFA from San Francisco Art Institute in 2003. He teaches art classes at the Community School of Music & Arts and MACLA. His work comments on current social issues through the use of multimedia and experimental methods, including video, paper and seemingly innocent cartoon imagery. His work has been shown at MACLA, Galeria de la Raza, and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

Julio Cesar Morales is an artist, educator, and curator who lives and works in San Francisco. Born in Tijuana, Mexico, Julio's work explores issues of labor, memory, surveillance technologies and identity strategies. His photography, interactive media, audio, public art, and video installation have been shown extensively in the Bay Area and internationally, most notably exhibitions at the San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, the San Juan Triennial in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Fototeca in Havana, Cuba.

Julio and Juan have collaborated as DJs and video artists on several projects.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Artist selection, community involvement and project oversight was conducted by MACLA/Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana. Located in downtown San Jose, MACLA is an energizing contemporary arts space where Latino artists create and showcase new work in the visual, literary, and performance arts to help define, interpret, and transform society. Unlike arts organizations rooted in the Latino/Chicano experience that seek to preserve traditional art forms, MACLA focuses on contemporary works and is actively engaged with a variety of communities, cultures and aesthetic approaches. As a hybrid urban arts space, MACLA strives to serve as a community catalyst for alternative, underrepresented cultural expression.

ABOUT THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

The City of San José Public Art Program seeks to build community identity by initiating artworks and exhibitions that enhance the civic landscape. Through active community engagement, public art strives to reflect the City's diversity, historic richness, and envision its present and future.

The Public Art Program is a part of the City's Office of Cultural Affairs, a division of the Office of Economic Development. The Public Art Program was established by a 1984 municipal ordinance that provides public art through funding from City capital improvement projects and eligible private development.

For further information and photos, please contact the San José Public Art Program.