



*My Pops (Sacrifice)– detail exhibition view 1, 2011, video monitor headphones, archive from the Chicano Movement 1970's, and text made out of Tito Villalobos Moreno's ashes, dimensions variable.*

My Pops (Sacrifice) 2011, was shown at the Vincent Price Museum in an exhibition entitled After the Gold Rush: Reflections and Postscripts on the National Chicano Moratorium of August 29, 1970. In this installation, I included the use of my father's own archive from his involvement in the Chicano Movement. I also created a text based work made out of his ashes, while repurposing film footage and music he composed for a B film shot in 1997, Austin Texas. The apparatus of echoes became a reflection on this historical moment, but also a critique of popular tropes created by institutional imagery like the ethnic savage and dangerous "other".

Progress is a New Disadvantage as a text work underlines a thread throughout all my artistic practice, that it is not the meaning of words, but their tasks and historical residues which become substantive. This liminal space is what my audience encounters. An archive reading, residue and documented performative gesture. Progress, was an important work solidify my continuing

investigation of text and challenging political narratives within the dichotomy of utility vs content. While My Pops (Sacrifice) established a multi-dimensional allegorical narrative driven methodology by layering elements focusing on music, video and archives.

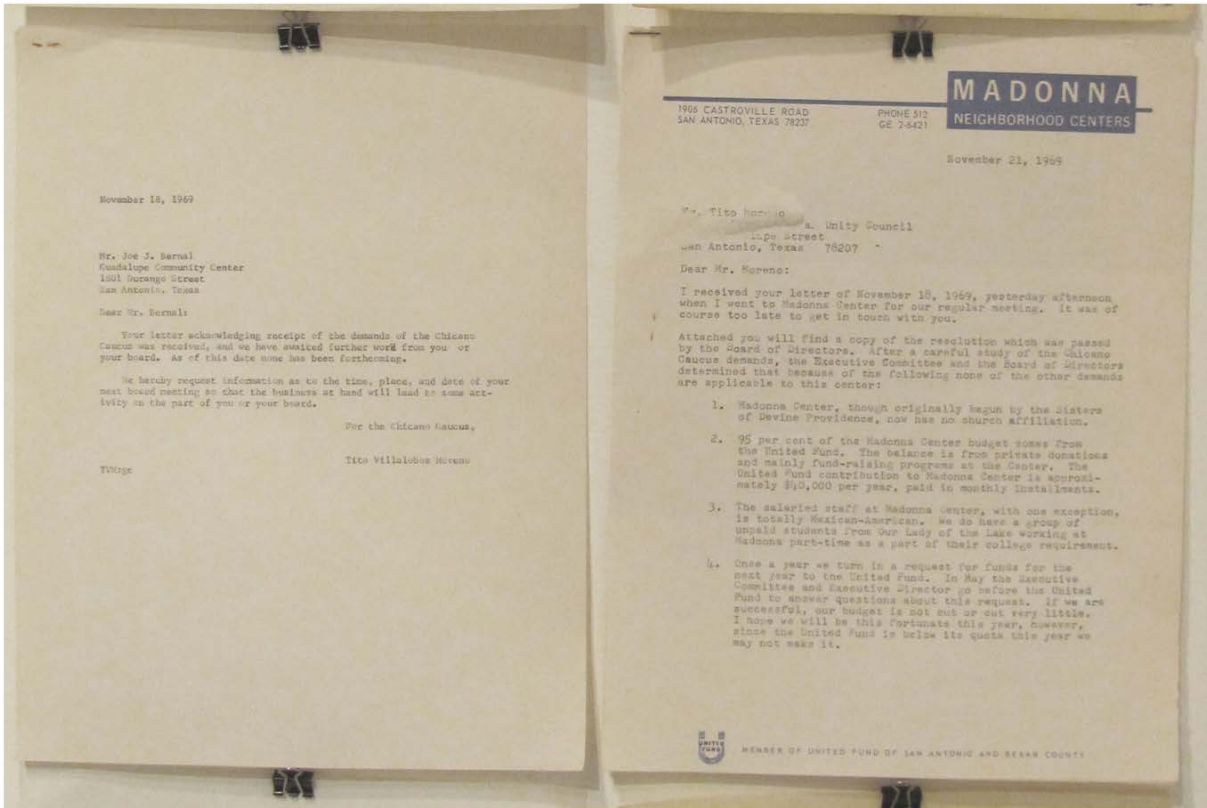


My Pops (Sacrifice)– *video still* , 2011, 2:09

The scene in this video is from a cold war spy epic B movie entitled Red Boy 13. The slowed down video loop shows a villain in military like garb (played by my father) violently holding one of the film's protagonist by the neck with a machete. Against the background of this violent scene a melodic tune plays that my father also composed for the title treatment of the film.

The song lyrics echo during the slowed sequence "when danger is near and far I know you'll be with me... I'm ready for love and you will be soon". A disrupting humorous pathos emerges between image and song as the video plays. This space of cognitive disconnection was my interest in how the symbolic image of the violent Chicano savage was portrayed by the main stream media against the solemnity of political rights and self-determination being advocated for during the Chicano civil rights movement, which were shown in the archival documents.

[VIDEO](#)



My Pops (Sacrifice)— detail exhibition view 1, 2011, archival correspondence from the Chicano Movement 1970's, written by Tito Villalobos Moreno, dimensions variable.

## DATE LINE

San Antonio  
by  
Tito  
Villalobos  
Moreno

San Antonio was happy to be represented at the newly formed "creative council" at Ghost Ranch the first weekend of April. Board member Tito Villalobos Moreno, Visual Arts Director Kathy Vargas - from the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, and Rudy "Graphics" Gonzalez were in attendance. It was good to see old friends and make new ones as we approach the forthcoming programs surrounding the "Quinto Centenario". Some exciting and interesting productions have recently taken place in San Antonio and some programming is scheduled for June which should be of interest to all RGI participants and supporters. In spite of ourselves, there continues to be diverse and excellent programming by, of, and for the RGI.

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center in San Antonio commissioned an original work for its theatre and Los Actores de San Antonio. This World Premiere Production was written and directed by Jose Manuel Galvan. "Las Tandas de San Culmas-Los Carperos" was Mr. Galvan's first attempt at commissioned work and he has brought to the stage a magnificent piece of work. It brings back the days of the "carpas", circus-like theatre troops which traveled throughout the southwestern U.S. and Mexico. It brings us a bit of history, reaffirms our culture, and adds to the mounting evidence that enterprises such as these will insure our future.

Mr. Rudy "Diamond" Garcia, an Academia de la Nueva Raza



Don Fito-Rodolfo Garcia

asociado and active supporter of the RGI, and his family provided important information in the development of the work. Rudy's family comes from the "carpa" tradition. In the early 1900s his father Rodolfo along with many aunts and uncles were part of the "Carpa Hermanos Garcia" which traveled by wagon throughout Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Mexico. Rodolfo-"Don Fito" was a comedian; an uncle "Manolo" was a musician. The "Carpa Hermanos Garcia" was formed in 1914 and included all six of the Garcia children. His father is now retired from the City of San Antonio after 30 years of service. He was a "Capero" until 1946 and still has fond memories at the age of 72. We wish him many more years.

It is estimated that between 1914 and the late 1920s there were about 25 "carpa" companies in the west side of San Antonio. It is a fresh breath of cool "old" air that affirms our artistic heritage. It is with a great sense of pride that San Antonio looks to the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center for its continuing support and nurturing of our cultural heritage. Wonderful show.

I see by the latest calendar from the Guadalupe that Denise Chavez

will hold a week-long residency in play-writing and short fiction. Denise has been part of the RGI since its early formative years. We've missed seeing her lately since her active life has had her constantly committed to various projects during our gatherings. It will be good to see her again. Currently she is a writer-in-residence in the University of Houston's Drama Department. She was the recipient of a Rockefeller Playwriting Grant in 1984 and won the 1985 Puerto del Sol award.

San Antonio looks forward to all the various activities planned for the "Quinto Centenario" and hopes to develop programming accordingly through RGI related activities. It is hoped that much of that will include the availability of all the information gathered from all sources so that it can be dispersed throughout the community. . . .

*Hasta  
Entonces.*



My Pops (Sacrifice)– detail exhibition view 1, 2011, archival correspondence from the Chicano Movement 1970's, written by Tito Villalobos Moreno, dimensions variable.



Progress is a new disadvantage- *detail exhibition view, 2011, cremated ashes of Tito Villalobos Moreno, on arches paper, dimensions variable.*

This text work reading "progress is a new disadvantage" taken from my father's notes on poverty and labor, and was made from his cremated ashes. The text piece became a reflective moment on the short-comings of self-determination in a nationalist movement while viewing the body as literally "progress" and asking the viewer to see one's life within the lens of phantasmatic-historical time.