

Rio Hondo College Art Gallery
www.riohondo.edu

TRANSITWAY

Martin Durazo
Phung Huynh
Vincent Ramos
Eloy Torrez

February 3-28, 2014

Gallery Director: Robert Miller
Design/Layout: Crystal Maes

Special Thanks to Patricia Gomez
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Vision

Rio Hondo College strives to be an exemplary California community college, meeting the learning needs of its changing and growing population and developing a state of the art campus to serve future generations.

Mission

Rio Hondo College is committed to the success of its diverse students and communities by providing dynamic educational opportunities and resources that lead to associate degrees, certificates, transfer, career and technical pathways, basic skills proficiency, and lifelong learning.

Values

1. *Quality Teaching and Learning*
2. *Student Access and Success*
3. *Diversity and Equity*
4. *Fiscal Responsibility*
5. *Integrity and Civility*

RHC Art Gallery hours: M-Th 9am - 3pm
and evenings: M-W 6 - 9pm
Please send submissions or requests to:
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TRANSITWAY

The permanent installation of artwork in the El Monte Metro station presented a unique opportunity for collaboration between two public agencies whose missions and operations rarely, if ever, overlap. *Transitway* is the first-ever joint project between the Rio Hondo Art Gallery and the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (the Metro).

Usually, the public only interacts with 'public art' after all the decisions have been made and the work completed. For the most part, the artwork appears on the street, a fait accompli. More often than not, the public is left to puzzle out the intent of the artwork based only on its placement on the street. *Transitway* offers a rare glimpse into both the artistic process of creating a work and the logistical process for choosing and placing it into the public sphere. Here, the intent of both the artists and the "public" are explored.

Transitway features the work of Vincent Ramos, Eloy Torrez, Martin Durazo and Phung Huynh, who were commissioned by the Metro to produce art for permanent display at the Metro El Monte Station. The largest bus facility west of Chicago, the El Monte Station sees thousands of riders every day. Thus, the artwork on display there has the potential to impact the lives of hundreds of thousands of people from all walks of life.

Ramos' work pays homage to the rich cultural contribution of the El Monte Legion Stadium, a hotbed of activity in its heyday; Torrez explores transitions and movement, energy and patterns that people create on their travels; Durazo uses swirling vibrant colors to energetically mirror the ever-changing intersection of cultures and environments in the Los Angeles area; and, Huynh's artwork is informed by the city of El Monte's vibrant transformations through the use of symbolic and metaphoric imagery.

We see this collaboration with the Metro as a logical extension of our mission to engage our community in a discussion about ideas and events that effect all of us. Many of us—students, faculty and staff—pass through the El Monte Station every day. The placement of this artwork in the station adds dimension and texture into our lives. *Transitway* offers a starting point for the conversations, daydreams, arguments and wonder which these works will be inspiring for years to come.

Chris Guptill, Dean of Arts and Cultural Programs, Rio Hondo College