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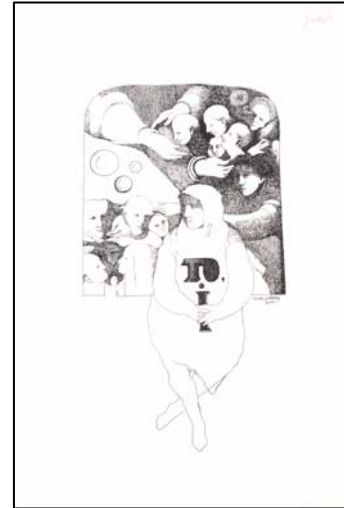
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Emilia Gutiérrez
Drawings and Paintings

On view September 15-November 14, 2010
Art Museum of the Americas
201 18th Street, NW Washington, DC 20006

The Art Museum of the Americas announces the opening of *Emilia Gutiérrez: Drawings and Paintings*, an exhibition organized in collaboration with the Smithsonian Latino Center as part of a wide-ranging series of cultural events in celebration of the bicentennial of Argentina. This exhibit is curated by María Teresa Constantin.

Emilia Gutiérrez' paintings and drawings include stirring ghostly figures, quietly walking the streets, hunched over tables, or perched at bar stools in virtually catatonic states. Her pensive, bald children convey the loneliness and bewilderment of childhood with a quiet melancholy. María Teresa Constantin muses that "maybe it's the artist displaying her own true self to the others as a portrait of her quiet wanderings through life."



Although a member of the Argentine art group Grupo de Plata (Silver Group), Gutiérrez often opted to operate in her own self-defined world. She did not participate in the group's public functions, and sometimes required prodding to exhibit her work at all. As the art world moved toward performance art and happenings, Gutiérrez remained a stalwart proponent of figurative painting. By the 1980's, health problems forced her to stop painting. It was at this time that she produced the drawings that are included in this exhibit. The sketches that she began to divert her attention from the grief of being unable to paint soon became an impressive body of work in their own right. According to Constantin, "the themes continue to be the same; lonely women, uncommunicative couples...a world of pain and stillness."

Born in Buenos Aires in 1928, Emilia Gutiérrez studied at the Fernando Fader School and at the workshop of Argentine artist Demetrio Urruchúa. Since her death in 2003, there has been a renewed interest in and re-evaluation of her work.

Also on view on the museum's first floor during this time span will be *Argentina in Focus: Visualizing the Concept—Cristian Segura/Sergio Vega*.

For more information on *Argentina in Focus: Visualizing the Concept—Cristian Segura/Sergio Vega* or *Emilia Gutiérrez: Paintings and Drawings*, please contact Greg Svitil at 202 458 6016 or gsvitil@oas.org.