

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

**Rosalinda Luna**  
[Rosalinda.Luna@dallascityhall.com](mailto:Rosalinda.Luna@dallascityhall.com)  
214-671-0049

**René Alvarado: *Memories from El Manantial*  
Opens at the Latino Cultural Center as the 2011 Maestros Tejanos exhibition**

**May 12 – August 20, 2011**

**DALLAS, April 26, 2011** – The Latino Cultural Center is proud to announce the opening of *René Alvarado: Memories from El Manantial*, the 2011 Maestros Tejanos exhibition. An opening reception will be held May 12, 2011 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. and the exhibit will be on view through August 20, 2011. Both the reception and exhibit are free and open to the public.

Rene Alvarado is a consummate painter and storyteller. His paintings are full of elegant and mysterious images, layering the multiple details of the stories that inspire the artist. His highly personal iconography draws upon the rich cultural heritage of his native Mexico and his adopted West Texas home, mixing the reverence for Catholic saints with cultural folklore. Alvarado is often inspired in family, friends and stories from the small town in Mexico where he was born. The exhibition at the Latino Cultural Center, *Memories from El Manantial*, features 16 paintings that give the viewer a glimpse of the lyrical approach that characterizes Alvarado's work.

"I take imagery and combine it with out-of-the-ordinary combinations. I express emotion through color, almost like a narrative," says Alvarado. "There's so many layers in the painting that you would have to look at a painting several times to see all the information. There's a lot of hidden visual language."

A resident of San Angelo since age 10, Alvarado was born in El Manantial, Coahuila, Mexico. He has exhibited his work throughout Texas, most recently in the exhibition "The Madonna as Muse: The Paintings of René Alvarado," organized by the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts and traveling to museums in Wichita and Beaumont. Alvarado was recognized by The Texas Commission on the Arts and the Texas Legislature as the 2009 Texas State Two-Dimensional Artist.

"We are thrilled with the opportunity to present the work of René Alvarado at the Latino Cultural Center," notes María Muñoz-Blanco, Dallas' Director of Cultural Affairs. "René's paintings have a fantastic way of capturing the viewer's attention, drawing you in with mysterious images and

layers of color and symbols. They are beautiful paintings and we're honored to be able to exhibit them at the LCC as our 2011 Maestros Tejanos exhibition.”

Initiated by the Latino Cultural Center in 2008, the annual *Maestros Tejanos* exhibition seeks to recognize the talent and contribution of leading Latino Texas artists. Past exhibitions have featured Benito Huerta, Tina Fuentes, Celia Alvarez Muñoz, and Jesús Moroles.

The Latino Cultural Center's presentation of René Alvarado: Memories from El Manantial is made possible through the support of the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, Texas Commission on the Arts, BBVA Compass and the Friends of the LCC. Special thanks to Valley House Gallery (Dallas) and Gallery Shoal Creek (Austin).

### **About the Latino Cultural Center**

The Latino Cultural Center is a division of the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs. Our mission is to serve as a regional catalyst for the preservation, development, and promotion of Latino and Hispanic arts and culture. The Center's 27,000 sq. ft. facility was designed by renowned Mexican architect Ricardo Legorreta and features a 300-seat theater, two visual arts galleries, and an outdoor plaza. Its signature purple tower serves as a beacon to guide visitors to our East Dallas / Deep Ellum location.

The Latino Cultural Center is located at 2600 Live Oak, Dallas, Texas 75204. Located immediately east of downtown Dallas, the Center is less than 1 mile from the Dallas Arts District and conveniently located two blocks north of the DART Green Line Deep Ellum Station. Onsite free parking available.

LCC hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and evenings for performing arts events. For additional information please call 214-671-0045 or visit our website at [www.dallasculture.org/latinocc](http://www.dallasculture.org/latinocc).

###

