

PRESS RELEASE

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APRIL EXHIBIT AT THE CUBAN ART SPACE OF 100+ POSTERS HELPS OPEN CELEBRATION OF ¡SI CUBA!

The Cuban Art Space of the Center for Cuban Studies has opened **an exhibit of more than 100 Cuban posters** dedicated to recreation, the performing arts, cultural events and meetings, sports and tourism on April 1. We've been celebrating Cuban culture for almost 40 years, so clearly we want to show our support for the ¡Si Cuba! festivities going on in New York for the next three months, and we have a number of special events coming up.

On **April 14** we'll be presenting **the documentary "My beloved Pogolotti"** as part of the Havana Film Festival in New York. The film is about a unique Havana neighborhood teeming with working families with a special sense of community and a solid cultural identity. The Cuban Art Space will present two new exhibits in the next three months -- the poster show and **an exhibit of conceptual art by young Havana artists Mabel Poblet and Ernesto Rancaño that opens in early May**. Both artists will be here. The Center will also sponsor a series of **lectures on contemporary Cuban art, beginning in late April and going through June**, supported by the Fundación Avant Garde. Participants include collector/curator Alex Rosenberg, artist/critic Tonel (Antonio Fernández) and artist Ernesto Oroza, and former Fototeca director Lourdes Socarrás, among others. In addition, we'll continue our regular programming of book events, talks, and special get-togethers with visiting Cuban artists.

The Center has a collection of Cuban poster art that is the largest in the United States, and perhaps the largest outside Cuba itself. Since its beginning, in 1972, the Center has collected every conceivable kind of poster in Cuba, posters meant to shape revolutionary consciousness, posters in solidarity with liberation movements around the world, posters that revile and posters that praise, posters that advertise film, theater, dance and art exhibits, posters that commemorate historical moments, posters in celebration of women, children, students and much more. Most of the earliest posters were hand silk-screened, as are the ones in the current exhibit.

Many of the posters in the current show come from outside of Havana, especially Santiago de Cuba, which has a strong revolutionary political tradition as well as being the site of the best "Carnaval!" in Cuba -- many posters celebrate the annual carnival and most were done by artist Suitberto Goire, who died 10 days ago at the age of 60. He was excited about these posters being shown at this time. We invite you to come celebrate with us -- and in so doing celebrate the life of this great graphic designer.