Latin American Exhibit Featured at IUK Art Gallery

Thanks to a $4,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Howard County, the IU-Kokomo Art Gallery was able to present an astonishing exhibit from Latin America.

“LAS (IN)VISIBLES: Women Artists of Uruguay” was on exhibit Mar. 14–Apr. 25, 1999. The exhibit featured 36 contemporary paintings, photographs, watercolors, and prints by 17 women artists of varying age groups, economic classes, and political affiliations.

Known as “the torture chamber of Latin America,” Uruguay suffered the atrocities of a long dictatorship (1973–84) characterized by torture, imprisonment, and exile of tens of thousands. Though cultural freedom would eventually find its way to the soil of Uruguay, it was a mere illusion for many women of that country—women who suffered oppression, discrimination, domestic violence, and economic inequalities. “LAS (IN)VISIBLES” represents their story.

Lynda Collins said before the exhibit, “Despite the subject matter, there are some very uplifting pieces.”

Complementing the variety of creative works in “LAS (IN)VISIBLES” are photographic portraits of each artist taken by curator Stacey Wescott. She also compiled autobiographical texts from each artist and co-directed with Amelie Collins a documentary featuring intimate interviews with the artists, Montevidean street scenes, and archival footage of the dictatorship.

The exhibit was bilingual, with all text presented in both English and Spanish. The Indiana Arts Commission and Community Foundation of Howard County sponsored the event.

—David Nelson
Office of Media Relations, IUK

Lynda Collins

“Self-portrait,”
black and white photograph
by Diana Mines.

“Carriage of Love,”
pen and ink drawing
by Inex Olmedo.


—Susie Shelton, WEST