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WITTE
MUSEUM

FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA
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Witte Museum Presents
La Cultura Trasciende Fronteras:
A Personal Portrait of Tejanos and Mexicanos
In Conjunction With Fotoseptiembre

SAN ANTONIO—The Witte Museum welcomes *La Cultura Trasciende Fronteras: A Personal Portrait of Tejanos and Mexicanos* by photographer Al Rendon on view **September 20, 2008** through **January 25, 2009** in the Focus Gallery. In conjunction with the international photography festival **Fotoseptiembre**, this photographic exhibit features snapshots of life designed to show the Mexican culture and celebrating the heritage while at the same time inviting people of all heritages and backgrounds to witness the daily lives Mexican-Americans.

Photographed over a span of 20 years, *La Cultura Trasciende Fronteras* includes 38 images depicting the heritage of Mexican-Americans from various backgrounds demonstrating their expressions of religion, work and the arts no matter where they live. The subjects included in this exhibit are every day people ranging from shop workers, people on the street and parade goers to the luminaries Sandra Cisneros and Teresa & Willie Champion.

Photographer Al Rendon was born and educated in San Antonio where he is also owner of the Rendon Photography & Fine Art Gallery located in historic Southtown San Antonio. Beginning in the 1970s with concert and event photography, Al Rendon's first assignment came before he even graduated high school when KONO Radio asked him to shoot on-air personalities to accompany their weekly Top 40 lists. Since then, he has documented and accumulated many images celebrating San Antonio and his local culture. In addition to being a local photographer, Rendon's pictures have also appeared in many national publications including *People*, *People en Espanol*, *Newsweek* and *USA Today*.

Fotoseptiembre is an international photography festival which celebrates photography and photography-based art forms. Since it began in 1996, Fotoseptiembre has sparked a surge in the interest of South Texas photographic arts. People ranging from well established artists to local activists to young amateurs display their work at this festival which has grown to include exhibits not only in San Antonio, but also in Austin, Houston, Boston, New York as well as Mexico City. Exhibiting photographers have come from as far as Peru, Canada, Germany, Belgium and India.

La Cultura Trasciende Fronteras: A Personal Portrait of Tejanos and Mexicanos is free with museum admission. For more information call 210.357.1900 or visit www.wittmuseum.org.

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