



**OSVALDO RAMIREZ
CASTILLO**

CARNIVALISSIMO

/DETAILS

EXHIBITION

June/July 2009

RECEPTION

July 16, 2009 7:00-8:00 PM

Drinks to follow at the
Auburn Saloon

#163 115-9 Avenue SE



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada



/ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Originally from El Salvador, Osvaldo Ramirez Castillo immigrated to Canada in 1989 and currently resides in Montreal. He holds the degree of MFA (Print Media) from Concordia University (Montreal, 2007). His work has been shown in Toronto, Montreal, New York, and internationally, most recently in the Biennial Beyond/In Western New York (Buffalo, 2007), and in the solo exhibition Legends, Myths and Icons at Centre Clark (Montreal, 2008).

/CARNIVALISSIMO

Stemming from the use of drawing as a personal act of remembering, *Carnivalissimo* depicts a complex narrative of historical, cultural and personal experience. Using the human body as a symbol and site for trauma, and a grotesque carnival as a stage, Castillo depicts the violence that marked El Salvador during the civil war in the 1980s, alongside North American iconography derived from pop culture. The resulting allegorical drawings explore issues of collective memory, cultural identity and historical trauma.