

## **INTRODUCTION**

I come from an agricultural background from which I gained a respect for all living things. I am bilingual and bicultural. I was born and raised near the United States- Mexico border, and have lived in border states along the southwest as well as in Florida, Arkansas and Guam. This has given me a wide outlook into many different cultures, and this is reflected in my photographs. My emphasis is documentary work. I have always been intensely interested in photographing life. I have photographed throughout the United States, Europe, Asia and Mexico and have exhibited in Florida, Virginia, Washington DC, New Mexico and Texas.

One of my more notable projects is a series of photographs depicting life in the colonias of El Paso County, where clean, potable water is extremely scarce. *Crying for Water* has been widely shown in El Paso, and most recently hung in the rotunda of the Cannon House Office Building in Washington, DC. U.S. Congressman Ronald Coleman used the photographs to influence legislation in subcommittee meetings.

I am published in both the United States and Mexico.

## **EDUCATION**

- 1984 Associate Science, Photography – Daytona Beach Community College
- 1966 Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education – Texas Western College

## EXHIBITION LIST

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 1999 *On Holiday*. (images from Europe). Barnes & Noble, El Paso, Texas
- 1996 *Without a Word*. Student Entrepreneur Gallery, Ysleta Independent School District, El Paso, Texas
- 1995 *Crying for Water*, Los Paisanos Gallery, Chamizal National Memorial, El Paso, Texas  
*Crying for Water*, Cannon House Office Building, Washington DC  
*Quality of Life on the Border*. Border Conference, Ysleta Independent School District, El Paso, Texas  
*On Holiday*, Dolce Vita, El Paso, Texas  
*Show of Emotion*, (The Return of Desert Storm Troops). Center Theater, Fort Bliss, Texas
- 1994 *Show of Emotion*, Union Gallery, University of Texas, El Paso, Texas
- 1990 *Photographic Retrospective*, Chamizal National Memorial, El Paso, Texas  
*Crying for Water*, First Presbyterian Church, San Elizario and Socorro High Schools, Plaza Gallery, University of Texas at El Paso Library, El Paso, Texas

### JURIED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 1999 *Group Exhibit*, Camino Real, El Paso, Texas
- 1996 *Arte Hispano*, Gallery El Paso, El Paso, Texas  
*Close to the Border*, University Art Gallery, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- 1995 *Juntos Art Association 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibit*. American Museum, El Paso, Texas (Best of Show)  
*Artists of the Gulf States*, Corpus Christi, Texas  
*Silent Art Auction*, El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, El Paso, Texas
- 1994 *Bucking the Texan Myth*, Austin Visual Arts Association, Austin, Texas  
*Close to the Border*, University Art Gallery, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico  
*El Paso Art Association Exhibition*, El Paso, Texas

### PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

- La Mujer*, University Art Gallery, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- Pet Series*, Country Club Animal Clinic, El Paso, Texas

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

For four years, I have photographed the cats and dogs that unwittingly find themselves in cages at our local pound. The majority of them are killed by injection. Although the process is considered humane, the animals endure immeasurable suffering. During the holding period of three to five days, the animals are confused, nervous, anxious and panicky. They are helpless. Despite humane efforts by the staff, the animals know they are trapped and unsafe. They are scared to death every step of the way. This is a horrific situation for these animals for the fear they experience is worse than their fate. Society needs to be aware of the realism behind the needless cruelty. To prevent the carnage of this tremendous surplus of innocent and perfectly healthy animals, we *must* spay and neuter our pets. Each year, half of all cats and dogs born are euthanized in U.S. pounds and shelters. I propose a photographic project that will increase visual awareness of this problem, so that everyone will help by spaying and neutering their pets.

This is a request for funds from sponsors for materials, supplies and support for the documentary photographic exhibit. The exhibit will consist of 60-80 print exhibition of black and white 16x20 matted and framed photographs. The accompanying audio will be the actual sounds and voices from where the photographs were taken. After a local showing, this exhibit will have the momentum to travel nationally and ultimately result in a photography book. This lasting educational tool will reinforce the message portrayed in the exhibit in an attempt to aid in the relief of pet overpopulation.

I am a documentary photojournalist and have done several photographic projects on humanistic issues. However, what uniquely qualifies me for this project is that I was a volunteer with an animal rescue group for four years. I have rescued cats and dogs from every conceivable situation. While that is helpful, it is not the answer to this problem. The solution is prevention via spay and neuter.

Viewing of project portfolio is encouraged and available upon request.

**Isabel Fierro Taylor**

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El Paso, TX 79922  
915.581.0187

**PROJECT BUDGET**

Photographic Supplies:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 100 Rolls of 35mm film                           | \$600.00        |
| 400 Sheets of 8X10 photographic paper            | \$450.00        |
| 400 Sheets of 11X14 fiberbase photographic paper | \$450.00        |
| Negative Sleeves                                 | \$150.00        |
| Chemistry  | \$500.00        |
| Shipping Charges                                 | \$100.00        |
| Easel V-track 16x20                              | \$400.00        |
| 150 sheets of 16x20 fiberbase photographic paper | <u>\$500.00</u> |

*Photographic supplies* \$3,150.00

Exhibit:

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 60 Frames @ \$15 each    | \$900.00        |
| Hardware                 | \$60.00         |
| Plexiglass               | \$780.00        |
| Mat board                | \$300.00        |
| Linen Tape               | \$100.00        |
| Mat cutting and assembly | \$300.00        |
| Shipping Charges         | \$100.00        |
| Audio                    | <u>\$350.00</u> |

*Exhibit Materials* \$2,890.00

Photographer's Honorarium \* \$7,000.00

*Total Project Budget* **\$13,040.00**

\*Approximately 8 months full time work over course of last 4 years in addition to the 4 months of time needed to produce exhibit. Work includes but is not limited to; printing, matting, framing, and the packaging and relocation of photographs to shows.

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**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Financial Contributions

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Dr. Nancy D. Harvey          | \$100.00 |
| Evan Gourd & Janet Castaneda | \$ 50.00 |
| Isaac Chacon                 | \$ 50.00 |