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**Featured Artist Maricela Sanchez at the Art Center  
Exhibit Opening September 8, 2011**

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas- Born in Laredo, Texas and raised in Highland Park, Illinois, Maricela Sanchez is a multi-media artist with a fresh take on art and life. Her work centers on organic, ambiguous forms built of various mediums and applied colors. Maricela's work resembles nature more than anything man-made, yet her pieces still evoke a uniquely human sense of nostalgia. Her art is held together by a solid sense of design and installation, and a curious balance of sass and sophistication. *Fascinations*, Sanchez' new work, is indicative of her childhood visual and cerebral stimulations and memoirs, where daydreaming was an everyday part of her life. Always known for her work ethic, Sanchez started work early-on as a babysitter, spending hours creating shapes and images from those surroundings while the children were at play. Decorative visuals, such as Damask wallpapers and coverings to the religious aesthetics at church, were stimuli for her creative appreciation of their texture and color. These images have had a profound affect in her creativity, as she shows she's able to grasp shape and vision on multiple mediums (paintings, monotype prints, sculpture and installation) working in multiple collaborations. *Facinations* combines different elements from past religious memories to contemporary culture. Examples can be found throughout the show. Her mother's veil (body of work) reflects the beauty, respect and gratitude coming from treasured family moments at different services throughout Mexico, Laredo and Chicago suburbs. Also, her Maricela-damask-like visual characters are reminiscent of her first moments in splendorous creativity. Her charms are reflective of her childhood upbringing at church goings, which transformed to family fun-days; visits to the Big City of Chicago, where highway billboards glistened with galore. Life was a Sunday feast and the flea market visits spurred her creativity with an abundance for innovation and extraordinaire. In *Fascinations*, Sanchez shows she can have compassion and modesty, while balancing curiosity and the excess. Sanchez hopes that viewers will see what she sees, and that her work will bring imagination to your world. **Join us at the Art Center on September 8th and find your *Facinations*.**

**WHO:** Art Enthusiasts, Press, All Members of the Community

**WHAT:** Artist's Reception

**WHEN:** September 8, 2011 from 5:00-7:00pm

**WHERE:** The Art Center of Corpus Christi

100 Shoreline Boulevard

Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Mark your calendars today for this exciting one month exhibit and prepare to be amazed at the beauty of Maricela Sanchez's art.



**About The Art Center of Corpus Christi, promoting arts and culture in the Costal Bend for 40 years:** The Art Center of Corpus Christi ([www.artcentercc.org](http://www.artcentercc.org), 361-884-6406) was founded as a community art center and 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization in 1972. "The Center" provides an environment for creative expression with educational programs and exhibition of the arts. Its facilities include ten art organizations, five gallery spaces, and special events. The Art Center has free admission and is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, 10AM to 4PM.