

Title: La Ofrenda (The Offering)

Artist: Yreina Cervantez

Date: 1990

Location: Toluca Street under the First Street Bridge, Echo Park

Medium: acrylic

Sponsor: Social and Public Art Resource Center

Tribute to the struggle and strength of farmworkers and Latinos. Special emphasis on the important role played by women.

Dolores Huerta is the central figure. She was born in a small mining town in New Mexico in 1930. She is the co-founder and First Vice-President Emeritus of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO.

She is the mother of 11 children

She met Cesar Chavez while active in a grassroots civil rights organization in Stockton, called the Community Service Organization (CSO). In 1960 she founded the Agricultural Workers Association. She was instrumental in the passage of legislation allowing voters the right to vote in Spanish. She resigned from CSO in 1962 when it rejected a request from Cesar Chavez to organize farm workers. She then moved to Delano with her seven children (at that time), and with Chavez formed the National Farm Workers Association, predecessor to the UFW.

Muralist Yreina Cervantez was born in 1952 in Garden City, Kansas. She grew up near San Diego. She earned a BA in Fine Arts from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and an MFA from UCLA. She is a painter, printmaker and teacher as well as a muralist. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, and she has won numerous awards. In 1999 she curated the first all-female silkscreen workshop ever held at Self-Help Graphics in Boyle Heights. She is currently a full-time faculty member of the Chicano(a) Studies Department at Cal State Northridge.