

# TATIANA GARMENDIA

Winter 2011



## The Lamentations make their debut in the M. Rosetta Hunter Gallery at SCCC

This spring and summer I had the opportunity to work with a small group of veterans and their families for a series of lamentations or pietas. A part of the ongoing Last Judgment series, this cluster of inquiry commemorated the losses that the returning soldiers had experienced. Family members joined them, expressing their fears and sorrows. I am grateful to have worked with such generous souls.

We worked in small groups, keeping the sessions short and intimate. By mid- September, I had completed seven Sumi ink on Okawara paper drawings. They debuted at a faculty show from September 26- October 27th, 2011 at the **M. Rosetta Hunter Art Gallery**, on the campus of Seattle Central Community College. The gallery serves Seattle's Capitol Hill community with a challenging exhibition program.

The six-foot long drawings hung from clips. The soft, vulnerable surface of the handmade Japanese paper seemed to breathe lightly, engaging viewers as they walked by. One ex-marine emailed me during the show to share his reactions. **"I have been in to see them five times, because I can only handle it in doses. I take in one for a minute and my eyes swell with tears, so I walk away and go back to it later. They are moving and inspiring, and they fill me with sorrow and rage. They make me want to go back there into the fight, and they make me want to never be a part of anything like it again. The way you can communicate exactly that which aches inside of me is beautiful."**

Reading his response to **The Lamentations**, I was reminded that creating art is a sacred trust to commit the human experience to memory.





## Epics are now at Springbox Gallery in Portland

### Mourning Embroideries showed in Salem

### Epics and The Last Judgment were at CWU

This season was a busy one for both *The Last Judgment* series and the *Epic* ink drawings.

Several of my **Mourning Embroideries** were included in the Gretchen Schuette Art Gallery's inaugural show. **Where are we now? Artists reflect on America ten years after 9/11**, opened October 5 and ran through November 22, 2011. *Mourning Embroidery 3* (see detail above) takes figures from *The Last Judgment* and renders them as soldiers in a field of explosions. All the *Mourning Embroideries* are drawn with human hair and crystallized tears on military netting.

Seven ink on Mylar drawings from the *Epic* series joined the large *Last Judgment* at CWU's Sarah Spurgeon Gallery. **Passages: Contemporary Latino/a Artists** featured work

by fellow artists from the Caribbean and Central and South America and ran from Oct. 8th through November 6th. I had further opportunity to share **The Last Judgment** series with CWU at a **Meet The Artist** event on November 2nd, 2011. It was such an honor to speak to such an engaged audience.

Just in time for your holiday enjoyment is **Wonders To Come Part Deux** at the **Springbox Gallery in Portland**. Some of my funnest **Epic** drawings are on display through January 6, 2012. Hope you get a chance to drop by! And before the holiday season comes to a close, don't forget to buy your tickets to the **2012 Artist Trust Benefit Art Auction**, coming up February next year. Tickets always sell out soon and fast. Don't forget to bid on work from my **Epic** series and help support the amazing programs the organization funds!