

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEATTLE, April 30, 2010-- Cuban-born Seattle artist, **Tatiana Garmendia**, presents examples of her figurative work at the *Imaging/Imagining The Skeleton Symposium*, Friday, April 30, 1-4pm, CUNY Graduate Center, New York City.

Imaging/Imagining the Skeleton is a symposium organized to explore how social conceptions of the human form have evolved alongside the increasing ability of science/medicine to represent the body.

The speakers, which include two art historians, a physical anthropologist, a renown culture critic, an orthopedic surgeon, and Garmendia as the sole fine artist, will present a constellation of inter-disciplinary discussions about the relationship between representing/exhibiting the body, evolving conceptualizations of the body and bones, and artistic and professional responses to new medical imaging technologies.

Garmendia will present select examples of her Figure, X-Ray, MetaCorpus, Hekate, and Epic series to highlight her commitment to both the rational and mystical imagining of the human flesh. Asked why her work searches for the meaning of suffering the artist explains, "As a child I grew up surrounded by my father's medical illustrations and my mother's statues of martyred saints. These medical and devotional images introduced me to representations of physical frailty, but gained their symbolic meaning from the social and political anxieties that surrounded my formative years in Cuba, where I witnessed unspeakable brutalities."

A YouTube link gives a videographic overview of her presentation:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SvGt-0G2YsM>

Free catalogues from *Visionary Anatomies* exhibition at the National Academy of Sciences are provided for symposium attendees. "I tucked a dozen small prints from my skeletal series in random catalogs," confesses the artist, smiling. "I thought of them as gruesomely beautiful door prizes for the unsuspecting."

Imaging / Imagining the Skeleton is co-sponsored by the Ph.D. Program in Art History and Science & the Arts, CUNY Graduate Center; and funded by the John Rewald Endowment of the Ph.D. Program in Art History