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September 04, 2008

SAMA has fun with chocolate

Curator David Rubin presents four conceptual artists — **Frédéric Lebain**, **Priscilla Monge**, **Vik Muniz** and San Antonio's **Chuck Ramirez** — who are all inspired by the world's favorite treat in "Chocolate: A Photography Exhibition," which goes on public view Saturday at the **San Antonio Museum of Art**, 200 W. Jones Ave., (210) 978-8100.

A members-only preview is set for 6 to 8 p.m. Friday (Sept. 5). Everybody is invited to the free "Food for Thought: Drop-In Family Day" from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday (Sept. 7).

French artist Lebain spray paints obsolete technological objects with chocolate and photographs them for monochromatic chocolate-colored still lifes. Monge, a conceptual artist from Costa Rica, photographs pieces of chocolate embellished with Catholic imagery. Muniz replicates well-known images from art history and popular culture with chocolate syrup in his "Pictures of Chocolate" series. Ramirez takes large, surprisingly evocative portraits of empty chocolate boxes. He will be interviewed by Rubin as part of the "A Conversation With" series at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday (Sept. 9). The exhibit is an official part of Fotoseptiembre USA.

Children can make their own images in chocolate during Sunday's Family Day. Activities include Mayan glyph designs, chocolate action drawings, chocolate fondue designs, abstract cookie designs, chocolate mosaics and candy bar cars. Rubin will give a gallery talk at 2:30 p.m., and there will be a themed tour of "Chocolate from Around the World" at 3:30 p.m. David Wolper's "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" will be screened at 4 p.m. Also, chocolate treats will be served.

—**Dan R. Goddard**



(Courtesy SAMA)

Jackson Pollock action paints in Vik Muniz's "Action Photo II, After Hans Namuth."



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