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Contrasts / Contrastes:

Artist Raul Manzano Explores Natural Versus the Imaginary Form in New Exhibit

(BROOKLYN, N.Y. – May 15, 2011) – With an exhibition of oil paintings by faculty mentor and artist Raúl Manzano, SUNY Empire State College wraps up its exhibition calendar year at the Livingston Gallery in downtown Brooklyn.

The opening reception is Thursday, June 2, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 177 Livingston Street, sixth floor. The artist will be present to answer questions and discuss his latest work. The exhibition is curated by Dora Riomayor, director of international studies at the School of Visual Arts.

“Raul Manzano’s visual perception of nature and objects poses a natural reality versus an imaginary one in his new exhibit. The freshness and vividness of this new body of work contrasts colors and forms that define the relationship of the elements in the composition. By using a variety of techniques, including under painting, *claroscuro*, washes and paint drippings that create a visual imagery, the artist infuses a silent, intimate yet natural and dynamic touch. In *Contrasts/Contrastes*, Manzano juxtaposes these two notions, to intrigue and engage viewers to go on a journey and to discover the meaning of the artist's reality and their own realities,” says the curator.

The exhibition will be on display from June 1 through September 15, Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Raúl Manzano's career expands three decades. He was president of the New York based arts organization West Side Arts Coalition; curator and designer of exhibitions at the Manhattan Borough President's Office; and Resident Director of the School of Visual Arts program Painting in Barcelona, in Barcelona, Spain. Manzano is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at Union Institute and University. His M.A. is from Empire State College and his B.F.A. from the School of Visual Arts.

About SUNY Empire State College

Celebrating its 40th anniversary throughout 2011, SUNY Empire State College was established in 1971 to offer adult learners the opportunity to earn associate, bachelor's and master's degrees from the State University of New York. Students learn through independent studies, online courses, seminars and residencies. Learners also may earn credit for prior college-level learning from work and life experience.

The college serves more than 20,000 students worldwide at [34 locations in New York](#) state and online. Its 60,000 alumni are active in their communities as entrepreneurs, politicians, business professionals, artists, not-for-profit agency employees, teachers, veterans and active military, union members and more.

For additional information, visit www.esc.edu. For more on the 40th anniversary, please follow this [link](#).

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