

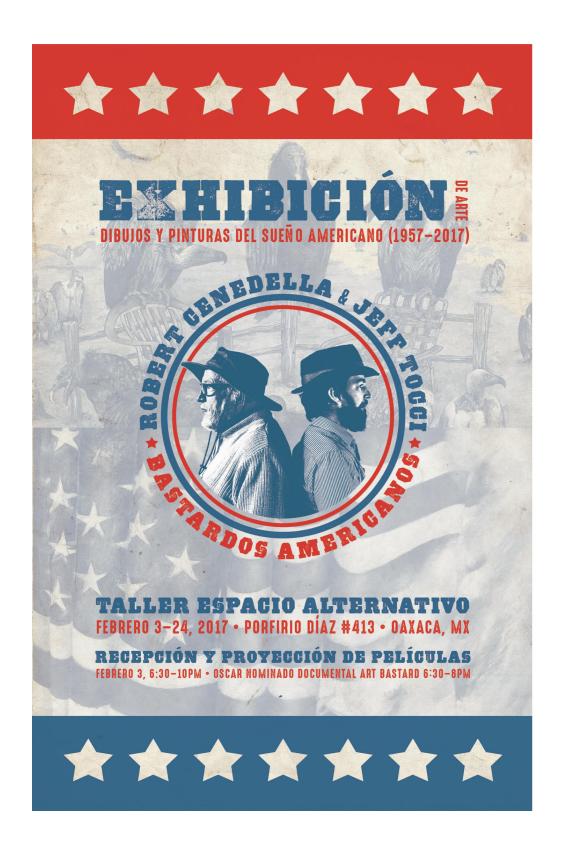
THE THOUSAND YARD STARE: ISSUE X BASTARDOS AMERICANOS

Dibujos y Pinturas del Sueño Americano (1957-2017)

Taller Espacio Alternativo

February 3-24, 2017

Porfirio Diaz #413, Oaxaca MX



The work of Robert Cenedella and his protégé Jeff Tocci builds on the ethos of

the Social Realists of the 1920s and 1930s. These mostly New York City based artists, championed equality and combated fascism. Depicting the economic and social inequality faced by modern masses, social realists challenged the turgid isolationism of the European Avant Garde. So too do Cenedella and Tocci; Cenedella, the "Art Bastard" himself has—since his days as a student of master satirist George Grosz—challenged social mores. Cenedella, long at war with the curators of consciousness within the modern art industry, remains a powerful voice of justice, creativity, and satirical freedom, and a true master craftsman whose skill is undeniable. Often times, his work is a cheery reminder of the underbelly of injustice inherent to capitalistic living. Tocci's work is striking, on the other hand, for its lack of anything resembling cheerfulness. It is a starkly beautiful mirror held up to the inner soul of our collective unconscious. Not cheerful, perhaps, but real to its core with a beauty and voice that brooks no false pretense. Tocci's work presents a reminder that even in a world of plastic façade and modern art nonsense, talent, dedication, and having something to say remain vitally important. With the Bastardos Americanos show in Oaxaca, these two longtime American voices of resistance are united for the first time. Just as the Social Realists of the 1930s saw a world in which fascism was a rising stain on the hearts of everyone, perhaps Cenedella and Tocci will lead a rebirth of vitality within the art world that challenges our country's current slide into the abyss of extremism. One can only hope...

> Devin R. Lander, New York State Historian

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Join us at the <u>Taller Espacio Alternativo</u>, February 3rd, 2017 for an exceptional exhibition featuring the work of <u>Robert Cenedella</u> and <u>Jeff Tocci</u>. This show features original drawings and paintings by mentor and protégé alike,

portraying the shifting fortunes and follies of the culture in the United States. The Trump administration provides an intriguing, and often frightening backdrop to the clear minded perspectives Tocci and Cenedella offer. What does the "American Dream" mean now? And what does it mean in an international context?

The opening reception is February 3rd, from 6:30pm-10pm. Beginning at 6:30, there will be a special screening of the Oscar nominated documentary, *Art Bastard* which chronicles Robert Cenedella's life as a rebellious satirist within the confines of New York's art world. In this exhbition, Jeff Tocci will be unveiling, *One Declination, Under God*, the final painting in his triptych, *The Great Undoing*. Of course there will be cocktails, music, and lively discourse as well! *Bastardos Americanos* will remain at the Taller Espacio Alternativo until February 24th. All profits from this exhibition will be donated to the Border Angels, a non-profit that advocates for immigrant rights and social justice, particularly along the U.S and Mexican border. For private inquiries about the work, please email Jeff at jtocci79@gmail.com



One Declination, Under God
For prints of this painting, click <u>here</u>.



-Jeff Tocci

Our mailing address is:

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