

WEEKEND

ART

A glimpse of the new guard

BY EMILY HULME
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"Phantom Sightings: Art After the Chicano Movement" at El Museo del Barrio is an ambitious look at contemporary Mexican-American artists.

The curators make no attempt to force the work on view into one central theme — such would be folly. Instead "Phantom Sightings" showcases work of varied aesthetics and cultural motivations.

Christina Fernandez's "Lavanderia" series of photographs paints an eerie portrait of a Laundromat as seen through its graffitied windows. Juan Capistran's collage of found posters for the Minutemen ("Do You Want New Wave, or Do You Want the Truth?") powerfully evokes the anger motivating the vigilante anti-immigrant movement.

Particularly of note is Carlee Fernandez's "Self



"Do You Want New Wave, or Do You Want the Truth?" by Juan Capistran

Portrait: Portrait of My Father, Manuel Fernandez."

The photographic diptych features on the right a picture of Fernandez's father as a young man, standing bold and full of confidence. On the left, Fernandez imitates his pose, dressed in a similar outfit. The piece is reminiscent of Cindy Sherman's work, but the vulnerability Fernandez emits elevates the piece from wry comment to tender love note.

"Phantom Sightings" is dense but well organized. The quality of work on view is such that looking for a connective theme is beside the point.

ON VIEW

'Phantom Sightings: Art After the Chicano Movement' is at El Museo del Barrio. Through May 9. 1230 Fifth Ave., at 104th St., 212-831-7272



"Self Portrait: Portrait of My Father, Manuel Fernandez," by Carlee Fernandez



"Lavanderia #1," by Christina Fernandez

ARTIST: MASAMI TERAOKA IMAGE COURTESY OF CATHERINE CLARK GALLERY

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