

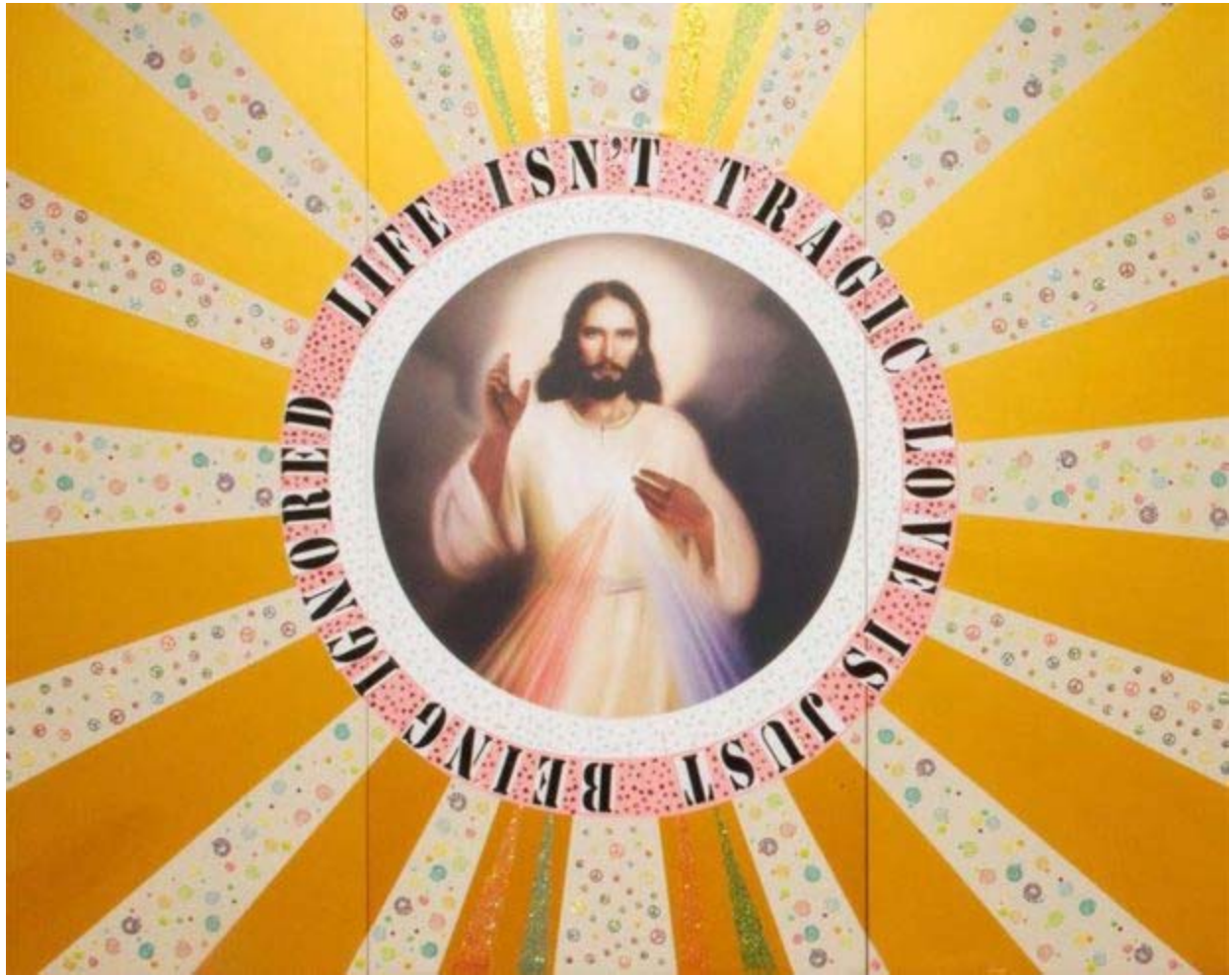
Bowery Boogie

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There's an Arturo Vega Retrospective Opening at Howl! Happening

Posted on: February 28th, 2017 at 5:09 am by [MacKenzie](#)



[Howl! Happening: An Arturo Vega Project](#) (6 East 1st St. between Bowery and 2nd Ave.) will soon turn the spotlight on [the late Mexican-born/East Village icon](#) with a stunning visual homage entitled “Empire: An Arturo Vega Retrospective.”

This exhibit will feature photography, collages, and several classic canvases from Vega’s Supermarket and Silver Dollar series. Additionally, his memorable Flags and his Insults “word-paintings” will be on display. His last major work, the “Life Isn’t Tragic, Love is Just Being Ignored” mural commissioned in 2013, ultimately capturing the spirit of the neighborhood on the

corner of Prince and Elizabeth streets, will also be recognized. An opening reception will get the festivities started on Thursday, March 23 at 6pm.

Curator Jade Dellinger for the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery of Florida SouthWestern State College is the visionary behind “Empire,” which will run through April 20.

And while Vega and Rauschenberg didn’t know of one another, the similarities between the two artists are quite remarkable. “Vega and Rauschenberg understood that art had the power to permeate borders and bring revolutionary change,” Dellinger divulged in his catalog introduction. “They were born and raised on opposite sides of the Tex-Mex divide, but were citizens of the world with global ambition to engage in a dialogue about the sociopolitical, humanitarian and monetary impact of nations.”

Want more on the “Fifth Ramone”? A larger panel discussion scheduled for Sunday, March 26 will see Dellinger chatting with guests such as Carlo McCormick, Anthony Haden-Guest, and Adam Lehrer. A historical overview of Vega’s relationship to the Mexican pop movement will also be presented by Dan Cameron. This free event kicks off at 7pm.

For more from Howl! Happening, please visit their official site [here](#).