Return of the Corn Mothers

Opening Reception: Thursday, Oct. 28, 5:30-8 p.m.
Light hors d’oeuvres will be served.

TEMPE, Ariz. – The ASU Museum of Anthropology will present Return of the Corn Mothers, a photographic exhibition featuring the stories and portraits of multi-generational and multi-cultural women of the Southwest. A selection of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) altars are interspersed throughout the gallery, honoring women both living and dead.

The traveling exhibition, a 2007 Rocky Mountain Women’s Institute award winner, is based on the Pueblo myth of the Corn Mother, a legendary entity synonymous with Mother Earth, who represents growth, life, creativity and the feminine aspects of the world. The exhibition’s focus is on contemporary Corn Mothers, women who have earned accolades for community activism and creative endeavors. Each photographic portrait features the biography and philosophies of one woman, as well as a story about her own Corn Mother, a woman who influenced and helped mentor and mold her into the woman she is today.

In collaboration with Calaca Cultural Center, the museum continues its long-standing tradition of celebrating Día de los Muertos through the addition of highly inventive and elaborate altarpieces; this year the altars will be united around women and women’s issues. The opening celebration will pay tribute to the women of Corn Mothers and the Day of the Dead festivities.

The exhibition runs from Oct. 7 to Jan. 28, 2011, with an opening reception on Oct. 28. Admission is free. The ASU Museum of Anthropology is part of the School of Human Evolution and Social Change in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Arizona State University. It is located at the corner of Tyler and Cady Malls on the ASU Tempe campus. Visitor parking is available in the nearby Fulton Center garage on College Avenue, or in metered parking spaces near the campus. For more detailed location and parking information, visit us on the Web at http://asuma.asu.edu/VisitUs.

For more details on Return of the Corn Mothers, call the museum at 480-965-6224, or visit: http://asuma.asu.edu.

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ASU Museum of Anthropology