Eye-opening exhibit at Cambridge School of Weston

Posted Mar. 4, 2016 at 11:52 AM

WESTON

The Thompson Gallery at The Cambridge School of Weston (CSW) is pleased to present the cultural portraiture of "Raúl Gonzalez III" in "Nowhere Everywhere," the second of three exhibitions in a series of exhibits centering on Sir Thomas More's nearly 500-year old literary classic "Utopia."

Born in El Paso, Texas, and currently based in Medford, Gonzalez grew up traveling between Juarez, Mexico, and El Paso, which informs his Latin American point of view. The exhibition looks at a selection of his series work that brings a sobering eye to the caricatures of a rich and well-established Mexican culture.

Gonzalez's drawings are balanced by a sobering and critical examination of Latin American issues, including the "romance of the West," Latino stereotypes and immigration.

The topic of "Utopia" was voted on by the student body at CSW two years ago for the Thompson Gallery to develop into a series of three exhibitions. The "Nowhere Everywhere" exhibition series was designed to support the high school's pedagogical interest in providing platforms for discussion and learning regarding issues of social justice.

Since its publication in 1516 and the introduction of More's invented word "utopia" (a "non-place" and a "nowhere"), writers, artists and philosophers have re-imagined society to examine imaginary, unprecedented, impossible or lost versions of societies at large.

Human "perfectibility" is the key concept to More's invention and the series examines the genres of utopia and dystopia through contemporary artists' visions of human conflict and human dilemma within societal structures.

"Gonzalez's work examines the tension between utopian aspiration and dystopian reality," explained Todd Bartel, gallery director and visual arts teacher. "He's an exquisite draftsman, whose monumental drawings blur the distinction between illustration and the fine arts, and reflecting a world often ignored and rarely portrayed."

Gonzalez gave the community at CSW an opportunity to engage with him personally during a presentation at an all-school assembly, and he spoke with several Spanish classes and groups of students throughout the day on campus.

The exhibition is in cooperation with, and courtesy of, Carroll and Sons, the fine art gallery in the South End of Boston. It will be on view at the Thompson Gallery until March 11. The gallery is located within the Garthwaite Center for Science and Art at The Cambridge School of Weston, located at 45 Georgian Road in Weston.

For more information click here. The series at the Thompson Gallery culminates with a group show in the spring of 2016.