

Carlos Fuentes lectures part of inSITE94 events

Carlos Fuentes, a legendary Latin American author and statesman with a world-wide following, will present two lectures, Sept. 24 and 25, during the opening celebrations of inSITE94. inSITE94 is a bi-national exhibition of installation and site-specific art that

involves virtually every not-for-profit visual arts organization in the region, more than 100 artists from around the world, and 74 temporary art installations at 37 sites throughout San Diego County and metropolitan Tijuana.

Fuentes will speak at the Centro Cultural Tijuana at 8 p.m. Sept. 24, and at Copley Symphony Hall at 1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 25. Fuentes' lecture in Tijuana, "A Vision of Mexico," is co-presented by Installation Gallery and the Centro Cultural Tijuana.

The San Diego lecture, "An Art is Born: Founding the Culture of Latin America," is co-presented by the Cultural Affairs Institute of the Mexican Consulate, Installation Gallery and the San Diego Museum of Art. A book-signing, coordinated by the Fondo de Cultura Económica, will follow the lecture in San Diego.

"We are elated to bring such a revered author, statesman and scholar to the San Diego/Tijuana region to help launch inSITE94," said Michael Krichman, president of Installation Gal-

lery, the general coordinator of the biennial exhibition.

"inSITE94 is a collaborative effort by cultural institutions from both sides of the border. Carlos Fuentes has, perhaps more than any writer in history, forged an understanding of the Mexico/U.S. cultural dynamic—he is intimately in touch with the souls of both countries. He personifies the spirit we are trying to realize through our collaborative effort," said Krichman.

Born in 1928, Fuentes spent his youth in Washington, D.C., where his father was posted as a Mexican Diplomatic representative. As a teenager, he lived in Argentina and Chile as well as his native Mexico. These early experiences gave Fuentes his unique hemispheric perspective and literary voice.

The author of more than 20 books, his eclectic fiction ranges from political spy thrillers ("The Hydra Head") to erotic ghost stories ("Aura"), from baroque world dream histories of the Spanish-speaking world ("Terra Nostra") to caustic indictments of the frozen Mexi-

can revolution ("The Death of Artemio Cruz"). Again and again, Fuentes has shown himself to be a pioneer of the "magical realism" style that has captivated readers and critics around the world.

His novel, "Old Gringo," was the first by a Mexican author to become a best-seller in the United States. The movie version, starring Jane Fonda and Gregory Peck, increased Fuentes' fame in the United States. Recently, he wrote and presented the five-hour, five-part BBC-TV series, "The Buried Mirror," dealing with the continuity of Hispanic culture.

Fuentes has been celebrated throughout Europe and the Americas as one of the world's leading literary figures. He has been honored with the French Legion of Honor, the Cervantes Prize from Spain, as well as the most significant literary awards in Mexico and Venezuela.

He inaugurated the Robert F. Kennedy Chair in Latin American Studies at Harvard and was the Simon Bolivar professor at Cambridge. He is a member of the Colegio Nacional in Mexico, a trustee of the New York Public Library and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

He has served as Mexico's ambassador to France and was an active participant in the quest for peace in Central America.

Fuentes' lectures are just one element of the opening festivities for inSITE94, three days of ceremonies, celebrations, parties and performances, Sept. 23-25.

Tickets for the Fuentes lecture in Tijuana are available from the Centro

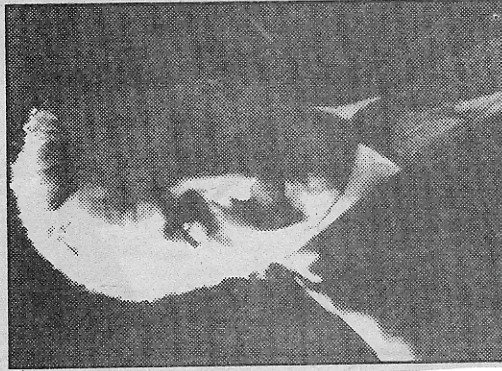
Cultural Tijuana. Tickets for the San Diego lecture are \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. They are available from the Copley Symphony Hall box office or from Ticketmaster, 220-TIXS.

Downtown San Diego venues will open Friday evening, Sept. 23 at 5 p.m. The evening will be highlighted by an inaugural ceremony at 7:45 p.m. at the Museum of Contemporary Art's plaza and a gala celebration at the Santa Fe Depot beginning at 8:15 p.m. A lively line-up of salsa, jazz and rock, featuring the Marcos Loya Band of Los Angeles, the Anthony Ortega Quintet, Sol E Mar of San Diego and Brave Combo from Denton, Texas will entertain on multiple stages until midnight.

On Saturday, the focus will shift to Mexico for the opening of all Tijuana venues at 1 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., dignitaries will perform opening ceremonies at the Centro Cultural de Tijuana, followed by the Fuentes' lecture. At 9:30 p.m., the opening celebration will commence.

A joint celebration of the venues will take place in Balboa Park and North County areas on Sunday. The various Balboa Park sites will open at 10 a.m. and host receptions throughout the day.

A lecture will be presented by famed New York artist Dennis Oppenheim at 4 p.m. at the California Center for the Arts Museum (CCAM) in Escondido, followed by the inaugural ceremony at 5 p.m. The unveiling of the inSITE94 installation at CCAM marks the first public event at the new multi-million dollar arts complex.



CARLOS FUENTES