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Artist Barbara Gomez to showcase new works

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Jenny Valdez

Las Vegas Art Examiner

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is always an adventure," says artist Barbara Gomez. Jenny Valdez Inc. and Mark Vranesh Studio will showcase Gomez's new original works this month at Preview Thursday and First Friday, in Las Vegas. Gomez began working with ceramics back in 1997 and

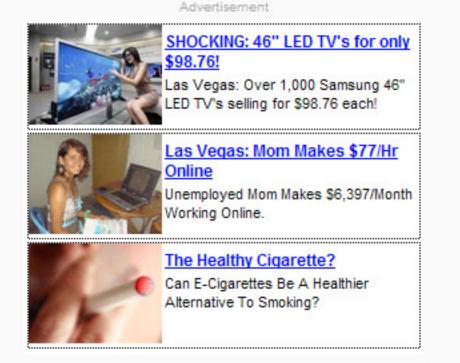
"Creating wheel-thrown forms keeps me centered, and glazing

instantly fell in love. "Clay is such a forgiving medium," she says. "If you put too much water on it, you can always dry it out. If it dries out too much, you can re-hydrate it. You can also remove parts after it is formed, and add aspects at different stages of completion." Gomez also points out that the clay will do as it pleases and it is this uncertainty that adds charm to a piece. Gomez was born and raised in the Philippines. She credits her

pottery. Her dad, Martin Gomez, paints, sketches, and enjoys working with wood while her brother, Oliver Gomez, is a selftaught painter, sketcher, and natural sculptor. "It's so encouraging to come home with your piece and hear that it's better than your third-grade ashtray," she laughs. Most of Gomez's work is done at the Las Vegas ceramic

friends and family as the driving forces behind her pursuit of

facility, Pottery West. "Working with other potters opens your mind up to so many other ideas, and that sense of community is pretty integral to the art. A lot of the glaze applications require a team of people taking shifts or working as a group to complete a kiln firing."



materials that bring particles out of the clay, leave flame marks on a piece, or mimic the textures found in the world around us. "Digging your fingers into that organic clay makes one feel so in touch with the land. I enjoy leaving finger marks. It's my way of leaving a piece of me on the vessel." Jenny Valdez Inc. and Mark Vranesh Studio are located inside

Gomez's work is inspired by nature and gravitates towards

The Arts Factory at 107 E. Charleston Boulevard, in suite 160. The gallery will be open from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Preview Thursday (January 6, 2011) and from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on First Friday (January 7, 2011). For more information about Gomez, send an email to

Muddhatter@yahoo.com.

check out www.jennyvaldez.com for more details.

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Jenny Valdez is a writer, artist, and former Miss Nevada USA

By Jenny Valdez

Las Vegas Art Examiner

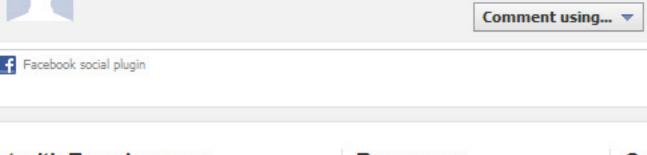
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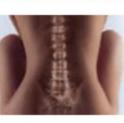
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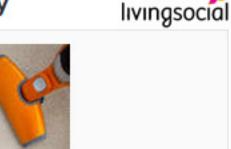
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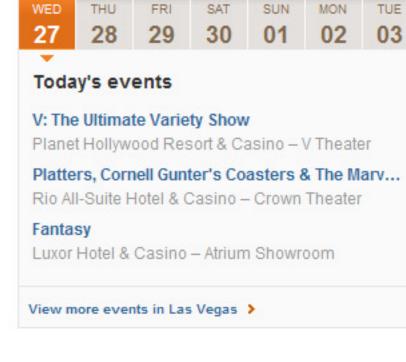


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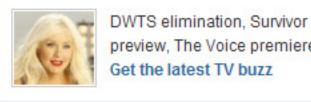
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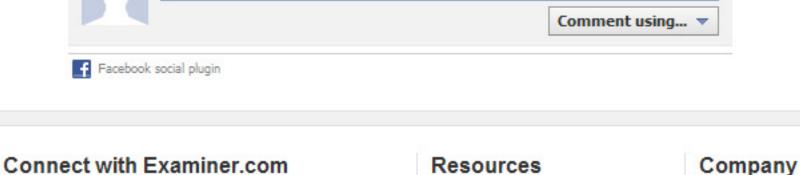


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