Tepoztlan children and their feasts
viernes, 25 de abril de 2008
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Neighborhood and town festivities, with children starring, exhibited

They say true innocence can be discovered in the eye and smile of a child. It can also be appreciated in the moments
children live while preparing their town’s feasts, transforming everything into a game. These photographic images
give testimony of a millenary relation with tradition.
Less than 2 hours away from Mexico DF and the negative aspects of a big city, we can enjoy children’s moments
of delight, captured by amateur photographers at Los Niños de Tepoztlan en las Fiestas de su Pueblo, (Tepoztlan
Children at Their Town’s Feasts) temporary exhibition, open at Ex Convento de Tepoztlan Museum until May
19th, 2008.
Marcela Tostado, Tepoztlan INAH Museum director, mentioned that the purpose of the exhibition is to return to children
images that show their participation in festivities of their towns and neighborhoods.
She remarked that none of the photographers are professional, and all the pictures are part of Tepoztlan regional feasts
projects, directed by Yolanda Corona, Miriam Padilla, Silvia Calderon, Noe Rodriguez, Olivia Felix, Francisco Rangel and
Albert Wahrhaftig, which have recovered images along this Morelos municipality.
Our best interest is to work along with school children, commenting with them the relevance of their culture and
traditions, keeping in mind their perspective as participant, dynamic subjects, hopefully achieving a forecast on
community life transformations, Marcela Tostado stated.
Catalogued as anthropologic documents by Tostado, these non-artistic images can be considered testimonials of a
millenary relation between traditions and practitioners, and also a visual report focused on children and their social
development.
Children, considered the future of the world, celebrate their day in Mexico every April 30th. Their learning about tradition
and culture is done playfully, while helping on food preparation, decorations and ritual objects manufacture, for us to see
at the photographic exhibition.
Marcela Tostado remarked that children and youngsters help is not always appreciated or kept in mind, but their work is
crucial to celebrate every neighborhood and town festivity.
Tepoztlan municipality is conformed of 8 neighborhoods: La Santisima, Santa Cruz, San Pedro, San Sebastian, San
Miguel, San Jose, Los Reyes and Santo Domingo, and 7 towns: Amatlan de Quetzalcoatl, Ixcatepec, Santiago
Tepetlapa, Santo Domingo Ocotitlan, San Juan Tlacotenco, San Andres de la Cal and Santa Catarina.
Some of these localities celebrate up to 3 festivities a year; community counts on children and youngsters collaboration.
This 60 medium format color photographs exhibition, homage to eyes and smiles of children, is open until May 19th,
2008, and complemented with other two: “San Andres de la Cal Asking for Rain Rituals” and
“Ixcatepec Region Ex Votos Paintings”, documenting local cultural richness; admission is free. Address:
Envila and No Reeleccion St., Tepoztlan, Morelos. Phone (739) 395 0255.
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