

Clemente Peña

165-20, 166-20

The Journey to Freedom is Long But Worth the Travel,
Every Fire Sparks Life, Inspiration, and Growth, but it Ignites the Flames of Truth

I started my Creativity as a graffiti artist, bombing walls doing jackets and t-shirts. Back in 1984 on the north side of Chicago, in a neighborhood that was once a hyper ghetto but is now known as Bucktown and Wicker Park. Where house sell for millions. It was once gang infested and drug infested but then drug users dealers and gangbangers are now replaced with Yuppies & Hipsters.

It is nice to see how that neighborhood has changed for the better. I just wish that it was instigated by the people that once lived in there. So today as I continue to grow as an artist and continue to explore my Creativity and work to perfect my artistic ability, I want to express through my art culture awareness and the need for change not just in the neighborhoods of these Hyper ghettos of the US, but of the people who are trapped within them. I also want to use my Art to bring awareness to social and political issues that need to address by those who are being truly affected and not just those reporters and news channels. That are driven and influence by the 2 dominant parties that drive the vehicle of today's political traffic Jam. That has halted our growth as a society and forcing our society to drive in reverse back to a time that was dark and a true embarrassment to this Nation. We have forgotten that migration is inatod and is a tool used by God to drive us to grow by experiencing the beauty of diversity. This nation was not only founded by immigrants but it was also built by those who were already here and those that were brought here by force. Those that continue to come from Central America and Mexico are native to the Americas. ~~we~~ Sure we have forgotten who we truly are, are true birthrights because we have allowed others to classify ~~our~~ who we are by identifying us as Latino/Hispanic. The Truth is we are Native of this land. So why aren't we welcomed?

I love all people because we are all Human and that is what unites us, Race is what divides us, Class divides us, poverty, privileged, divides us, Hate and ignorance divides. But, Education of self, education of each others culturally and socially will unite us if we allow ~~love~~ ~~to~~ ~~see~~ of ~~one~~ ~~another~~ and hone of ourselves to heal us and ~~allow~~ ~~love~~ to open our ~~eyes~~ eyes and let us see our similarities and difference that make us unique and human, that makes us beautiful. Then we as a nation will liberate ourselves from that stagnation of growth and we can evolve to our true ~~potential~~ potential

Please edit your Artist Statement to the space provided

as a society. With Love
Clemente P. Peña