

[Tortillas are the Staff of Life](#) by [Vic Herman](#) (On Sale!)

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Family



Item Number

7430766849

Retail Value

\$75

ArtRev.com Price

\$30

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Dimensions (As Shown)

22.25W x 8.75H Inches

56.52W x 22.22H cm

Medium

Lithograph on Paper

Edition

- Limited Edition of 300

- Hand-Signed 

- Numbered 

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About Vic Herman

Vic Herman has built up a reputation as an unofficial ambassador of goodwill from the United States of America to the United States of Mexico. He is an artist whose style is unique and who has the faculty for making that fact known. Since 1961 the governments of both countries have sponsored a traveling exhibition of his paintings of the Mexican people titled "Many Faces of Mexico" - for exhibition in cities of both countries. Herman has the unique honor of being the only artist ever sponsored by both governments simultaneously.

Vic Herman was born in Fall River, Massachusetts. When Herman was one-year-old his father, who played in the famous Paul Whiteman band, moved the family to Los Angeles where they settled in the Mexican district of the city where young Vic grew up. He attended classes, through junior high school, in all Mexican-American schools, learned to speak Spanish, and grew to love his Mexican-American neighbors and their culture.

Says Herman, "If the many peoples of Mexico, when seeing my exhibitions, accept my paintings as authentic in telling the story of their daily lives, and if the peoples of the United States understand the dignity, culture and arts of the Mexican peoples, I feel that I will have fulfilled the purpose of my activities - that is, helping to cement the friendship between our two countries."

Apparently our neighbors to the south have accepted Herman's paintings as being authentic depictions of their daily lives. They refer to him affectionately as "Papa Victorio." Father Benjamin Fernandez Valenzuela, of Morelia, Michoacan state, says, "Senor

Herman paints with the hand of an American and the heart of a Mexican."

In 1969, during the bicentennial celebration of the founding of San Diego, Herman was awarded a Medallion of Honor for his part in furthering good relations between Mexico and the United States. He has been proposed as a candidate for the Order of the Aztec Eagle, the highest honor Mexico can grant to a foreigner for promoting better cultural relations between Mexico and his country - a fitting tribute to Vic Herman's dedication and talent.

Lithograph on Paper

This printing technique uses a planographic process in which prints are pulled on a special press from a flat stone or metal surface. The surface has been chemically treated so that ink sticks only to the design areas, and is repelled by the non-image areas. Lithography was invented in Germany in 1798. The early history of lithography is dominated by great French artists such as Daumier and Delacroix, and later by Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, Picasso, Braque and Miro.

Based on the principle that oil and water repel, a Lithograph is created when an artist produces an oil-based or pen image on a stone or piece of metal. This surface is then moistened and covered with an oil-based ink. The resulting chemical reaction between the oil and water drives away the ink on the surface except where the drawing was first done. Fine quality paper is then placed against the surface and a lithographic press is used to create the print. Modern technology and processes have provided artists with many unique methods with which to create magnificent lithographs. In the 1890s color lithography became enormously popular with French artists, Toulouse-Lautrec most notably of all, and by 1900 the medium in both color and monotone was an accepted part of printmaking, although France and the US have used it more than other countries. George Bellows, Alphonse Mucha, Pablo Picasso, Jasper Johns, David Hockney and Robert Rauschenberg are a few of the artists who have produced most of their prints in the medium.

As a special form of lithography, the Serilith process is sometimes used. Serilith are mixed media original prints created in a process where an artist uses the lithograph and serigraph process. The separations for both processes are hand drawn by the artist. The serilith technique is used primarily to create fine art limited print editions.

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