

## *Angel of Culture by Pepo Toledo*

The term “culture” was first used referring to taking care of the mind and soul. Today there are many definitions. To make it short we can say culture is what we are or do, everything made by man that includes knowledge. Fine Arts are known as high culture.

The three elements in the Angel of Culture that we here deliver today, represent what we are, what we learn, and what we practice.

Cultural studies, in general, consider culture as the sum of interactions of all social practices. They explore creation and diffusion of meaning and their relations to power. In creation we have language, beliefs, music, marches, works of art, flags, shields, and symbols in general. On the diffusion side, it's essential massive communication media. Whomever controls production of meaning and its propagation, controls culture.

The Angel of Culture belongs to the series Angels which I exhibited on October 2012 as tribute to the great artist Efrain Recinos, on the first anniversary of his death. His extraordinary plastics was bearer of a moral message at all times; beginning with his childish drawings reflecting big battles through time and place with an almost obsessive concern of triumphant good over evil. In his utopia we all live as artists coexisting beautifully in a world without jails.

The students at National School of Plastic Arts are creators of meaning translating into powerful instruments to carry on perception and reality of society. This monumental piece exhorts them to take action responsibly, like Efrain Recinos did.