

SUBTEXTS



Itinerant poetry

A haiku by Rick Smith goes:

Three plastic daisies:
A faded, sad *descanso*
But, *yo recuerdo*

If you saw these words on an old road sign outside Café Ole on Cerrillos Road, or others like them at Radar Awning on St. Francis Drive, or elsewhere in Santa Fe last spring and summer, you might have thought Santa Fe business owners had collectively decided to draw townsfolk into their stores with poetry. In fact, the Haiku Roadsign project was developed by Jerry Wellman and Matthew Chase-Daniel, proprietors of the mobile gallery Axle Contemporary. An open call for haiku went out statewide and Santa Fe poet laureate Joan Logghe selected 32 poems, each of which was displayed on a Santa Fe street for one week. Poets whose work appeared on the signs include N. Scott Momaday, Miriam Sagan, and Jenny Goldberg. The signs were photographed by Chase-Daniel and collected in a book, *Haiku Roadsign*, which features essays by Logghe and New Mexico Museum of Art curator Laura Addison. *Haiku Roadsign*, published by Axle, is available in black-and-white and full-color versions at www.axleart.com and directly from the gallery.