

“Con Safos C/S”

- C/S literally translates to “with safety” (also interpreted as “with respect”)
- It is not a traditional Mexican symbol, but one unique to the Chicano movement
- *“It was meant as a safety precaution, a barrio (barrio: “the Spanish-speaking quarter of a town or city, especially one with a high poverty level”) copyright, patent pending. No one else could use or dishonor the graffiti. It was an honorable code of conduct, a literary imprimatur. Like saying “amen,” it ended discussion. Above all, it meant, “anything you say against me will bounce back to you.”---Jose Antonio Burciaga’s Drink Cultura*
- It is sometimes used at the end of a letter instead of regards, sincerely, etc...
- Urban Dictionary Definition and example: C/S... means "no backies"... when someone signs with con safos it means that whatever point has been made has been symbolically protected from backlashing and comebacks. Usually used by Chicanos to avoid the senseless situation of being challenged on something he/she truly believes in... Con safos!

“El Pelon: *Yo man, let's tag up this crazy mural!*

Chango: *Nel man, we can't. It has Con Safos (C/S). If you write on it you will be offending yourself!”*

Deborah Espinosa’s Input/Suggestions:

- I think the C/S comes at the end of the last text, as a signature, from all of us. D.
- Con Safos, claimed a message on a wall, or graffiti, art. Left with respect but also with strength, a challenge if you will. If I may say, "too bad if you don't like it".
- I think it should be applied with a paint brush or a marker, subtle with no explanation. People who will get will get it and love it. But..being that this is a museum exhibit I suggest an interpretation on the side, not on the panel. My thoughts.

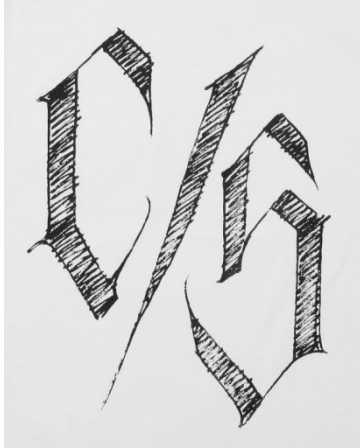
Links:

<http://miconsafos.blogspot.com/2011/04/meaning-of-con-safos.html>

<http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=con%20safos>

Google Images: “con safos” “con safos graffiti” “con safos tag”

Con Safos Sign:



Graffiti:

