



Sketch for *Bare Tool (Herramienta desnuda)* for Locust Projects Main Gallery

**MAIN GALLERY: Alexandre Arrechea: *Bare Tool (Herramienta desnuda)*  
November 23, 2024 – January 18, 2025**

*Bare Tool (Herramienta desnuda)* by Alexandre Arrechea dissects the action of a stone skipping across water as a form of “social sculpture.” The work is structured into three acts: “The Tool,” “The Action,” and “The Implications” in a large-scale, immersive multi-media experience designed to provoke thought about the power of our actions.

With sculpture hanging from the ceiling and moveable elements on the floors and video projections, “Bare Tool” evolves from a simple action into a comprehensive and engaging experience, highlighting the transformative power of seemingly small actions. The space will be the site and inspiration for multiple “Acts” and social activations from Locust Projects’ Annual Benefit Dinner to a newly commissioned performance presented during Miami Art Week, among others.

The exhibition is a Knight Digital Commission and made possible with major support from the The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; and a National Endowment for the Arts Art Works Grant.



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## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alexandre Arrechea was born in 1970 in Trinidad, Cuba. He graduated in 1994 from the Instituto de Superior de Arte in Havana, Cuba. Arrechea currently lives and works between Madrid and Miami.

Arrechea's artistic repertoire spans across a variety of mediums, including large-scale installations, sculptures, watercolor drawings, and videos, all of which delve into profound themes such as history, memory, politics, and power dynamics within sports and urban environments. His site-specific approach involves a deep exploration of the ideological and philosophical foundation of the surrounding context, aiming to foster a more immersive interaction with the audience.

Going beyond physical structures, Arrechea's examinations delve into the cultural resonances inherent in architecture, from design to social value, and how these elements influence various interpretations. Through meticulous dissection of architectural anatomies and spaces via drawings and installations, he unveils the potential conflicts embedded within these structures, arising from the myriad decisions "hidden" within them.

Internationally acclaimed as one of the founding members of the Cuban collective Los Carpinteros [The Carpenters], active from 1991 to 2003, Arrechea began his solo career in the same year. Some of his notable projects include "Nolimits" (2013), a monumental project featuring ten sculptures inspired by iconic New York City buildings along Park Avenue, and "Katrina Chairs" (2016), erected at the Coachella Music Festival in Palm Springs, California, USA, a re-imagining of the Villa Balmain

In 2020, during Miami Art Week, Arrechea created "Dreaming with Lions," an immersive rotunda resembling a vast forum-cum-library installed at Faena Miami Beach. This commission symbolizes humanity's resilience in the face of formidable challenges, showcasing the ability to persist even amid adversity. In 2022 at SuperBlue in a commissioned by Balmain his Web3 virtual "Hexagon Garden" enveloped Leonardo Ricci's Villa Balmain. In 2023, he collaborated with Carlos Acosta and a host of international creatives at the Birmingham Royal Ballet in the UK. There, he showcased his talent by crafting mesmerizing set and costume designs for "Black Sabbath: The Ballet."

His first solo museum exhibition, *Intersected Horizons*, curated by Gabriela Urriaga, explored his practice as a social and political exploration melding art, history, and archaeological forms. Arrechea's work can be found in the permanent collections of the Reina Sofia, Madrid; Museum of



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Modern Art, New York; Brooklyn Museum, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Daros Collection, Zurich among numerous others.

He has also participated in many group exhibitions, including *Las metáforas del templo*, Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Havana, Cuba (1993); *With Eyes of Stone and Water*, Helsinki Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland (2002); *Beyond the Supersquare*, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, NY (2014); and *Adios Utopia: Dreams and Deceptions in Cuban Art since 1950*, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX (2017).

Arrechea is represented by [LnS Gallery](#) in Miami.

#### **ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS**

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national, and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.