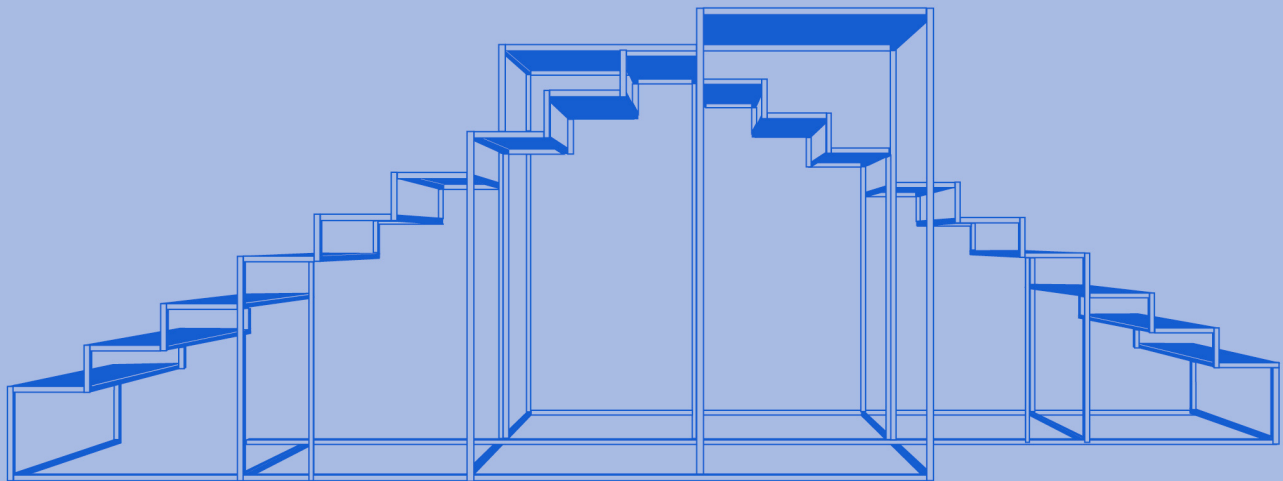


HOW TO: OH, LOOK AT ME

March 6, 2021
LOCUST PROJECTS



PRESS PACKET

2021

SOLO EXHIBITION

GEOVANNA GONZALEZ

HOW TO: Oh, look at me

Solo show by GeoVanna Gonzalez

Location: Locust project, Miami FL

Opens: March 6, 2021

Duration: March 7 - May 22, 2021

GeoVanna Gonzalez's solo show at Locust Projects, HOW TO: Oh, look at me, is an act of intersemiotic translation. The words / commas / syntax of Martin Jackson's poem 'No Rothko' have been translated into the metal / bolts / corners of Gonzalez's installation.

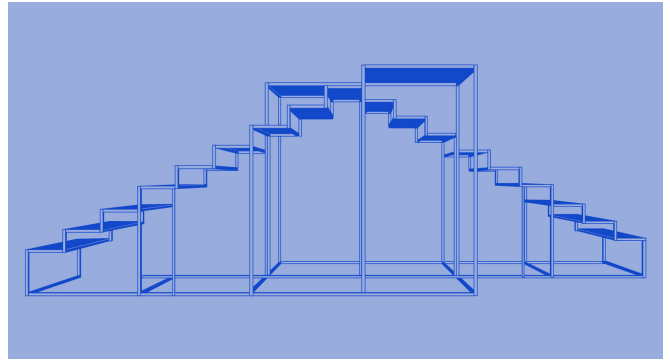
The poem is taken from Jackson's open-source poetry collection: www.tutorials.fyi. Written and shared in Google Docs, readers are invited to comment and edit on the poems. The collection is always completing, never completed.

The invitation in this show is to see Gonzalez's work in a similar light, as open-source installation. The work only becomes itself when we are within it; we are the figuration.

On entering the gallery your phone's cameras are covered with the same kinds of small, colorful stickers that Berlin's famous techno club Berghain uses. If you've ever lost yourself in there, you know that this simple gesture changes everything. The policy protects those who might want to look or act in ways they don't outside the club. But everyone is affected.

How often are we alone with our own first-person?
How often do we stop looking for flattering backdrop and light? Be inside yourself, the installation says.
Look for looking's sake. Listen to the rhythms of Miami rain. This is meditational aesthetics.

Gonzalez has been 'translating' Jackson's poems for several years. As the fifth iteration of her HOW TO series, this show deepens Gonzalez's commitment to creating provocative, participatory social spaces within institutional settings. As acts of queer infiltration, class-aware interventionism, her work wants us to see and explore, to dance and read-out-loud the potential of our embodied cognition. We are only when we interact, when we commune.



"It's challenging," Gonzalez says, "transforming from language to space, words to installation. But it's revealing. They overlap — they're different but the same. Poems build spaces that we enter, explore, that change us. I want my functional sculptures to do the same."

Gonzalez's use of poetry as foundation takes her work somewhere new. More than any other form of writing, poetry destabilizes its own medium. It is a tool for weirding and reinventing language. It is ritualistic, incantatory. There is logical depth to poetry that can be deceptive, that can pull the rug from under you.

This kind of upending is true of Gonzalez's functional sculptures. The poem translated for this show reads: "We are, all of us, edgeless, / and senseless."

There is no self without space. No you without where you are.

Oh, look at you.

THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY:

 Oolite Arts

locustprojects

 **DVCAI**
DIA SPORA VIBE CULTURAL ARTS INCUBATOR

PULP

ABOUT

GeoVanna Gonzalez is a Miami/Berlin-based artist and curator. Her work desires to connect private and public space through interventionist, participatory art with an emphasis on collaboration and collectivity. She builds installations that are designed for non-directive play in order to express the potential of our embodied cognition. She references architecture and design by reflecting on how the voids in the spaces we inhabit affect our everyday. Through her work she addresses the shifting notions of gender and identity, intimacy and proximity, and forms of communication and miscommunication in today's technological and consumer culture. Her most recent work performs these possibilities by collaborating with movement and sound based artists. These improvisations are political acts, analyzing and critiquing what it means to share public space as womxn, queer folks and people of color.

She is founder and curator of Supplement Projects, an alternative art space & community meeting point based in Miami; co-founder of performative reading club Read What You Want!; and member of queer/feminist arts collective COVEN Berlin.



GEOVANNA GONZALEZ

RECENT PRESS

GEO-VANNA.COM

Five Local Artists to Watch at Miami Art Week 2020 to Commissioner's Dejha Carrington.

MIAMI NEW TIMES

Among the artists featured in Vickles' show at the cultural center is the aforementioned first commissioned artist for Commissioner season three, GeoVanna Gonzalez. The Los Angeles native will have her work displayed at a few locations during Miami Art Week.

"It's just so exciting to watch her go," says a beaming Carrington.

PIN-UP

Around the protean table: From Judy Chicago to changing notions of digital era connection

2020-2021

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2 & a possible

"Through this project in Miami, artists GeoVanna Gonzalez and Najja Moon wanted to "challenge how an object can be absolved of expectations attached to gender" by blurring physical and ideological lines".



Design Miami 2020

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

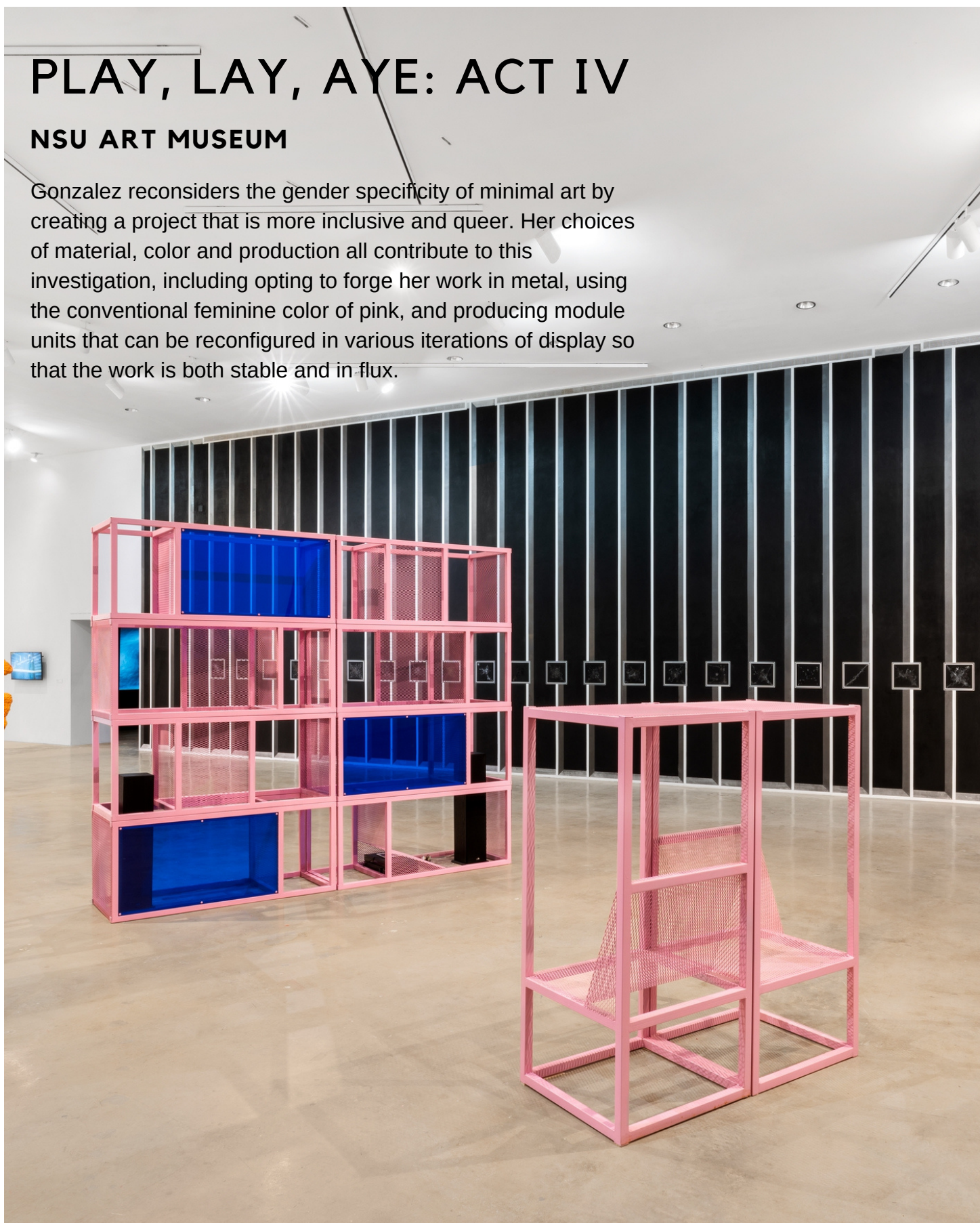
"Through-lines of flora and fauna are not ubiquitous, though. A decidedly industrial streak is also on view, such as with GeoVanna Gonzalez and Jonathan Gonzalez's "UNRESOLVED" pieces displayed at a gallery called Tile Blush. One concept, a daybed made of austere aluminum, appears almost archaically surgical or clinical in its finish."



PLAY, LAY, AYE: ACT IV

NSU ART MUSEUM

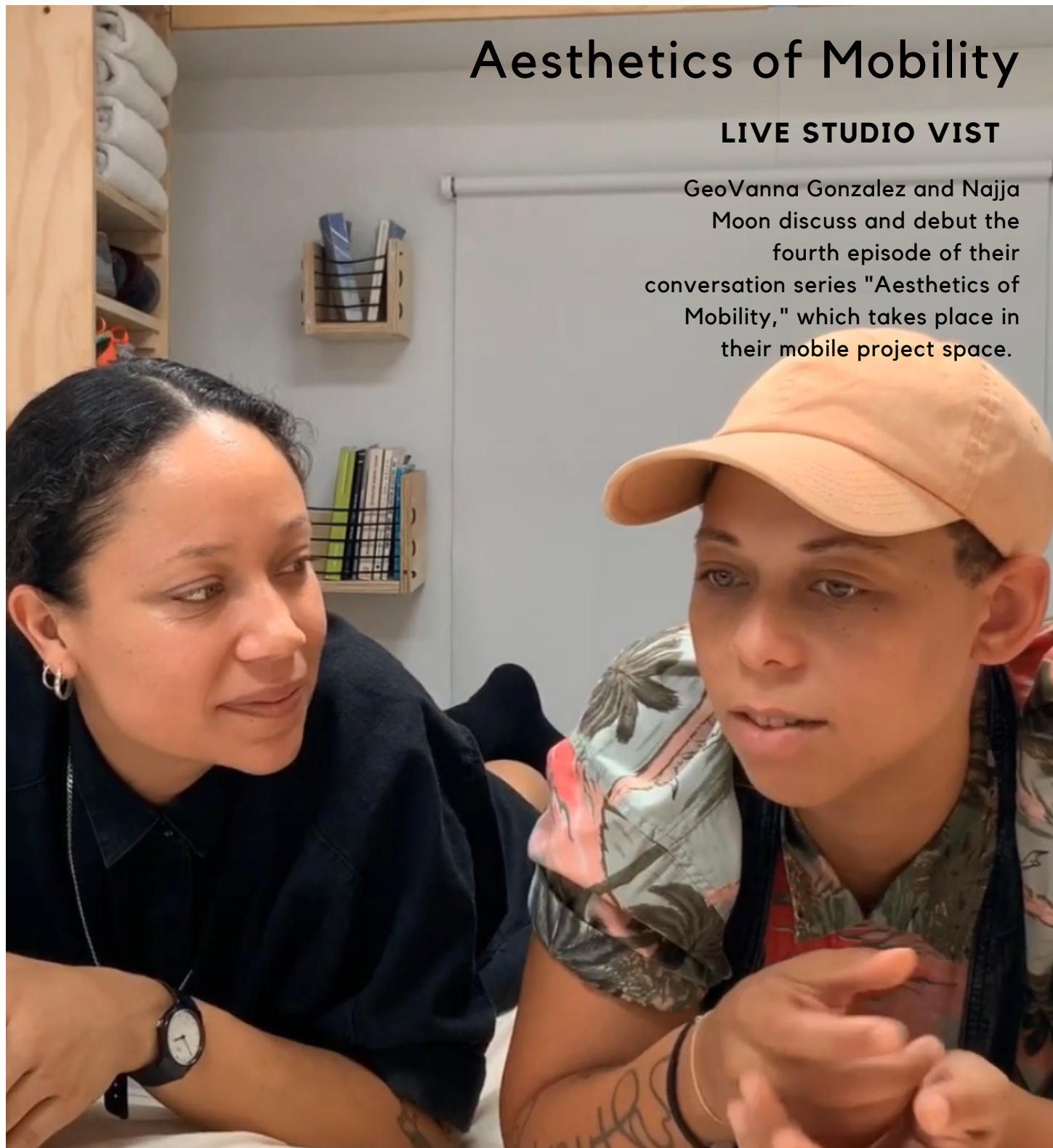
Gonzalez reconsiders the gender specificity of minimal art by creating a project that is more inclusive and queer. Her choices of material, color and production all contribute to this investigation, including opting to forge her work in metal, using the conventional feminine color of pink, and producing module units that can be reconfigured in various iterations of display so that the work is both stable and in flux.



Aesthetics of Mobility

LIVE STUDIO VIST

GeoVanna Gonzalez and Najja Moon discuss and debut the fourth episode of their conversation series "Aesthetics of Mobility," which takes place in their mobile project space.





WAVEMAKER
GRANTS

SUPPLEMENT PROJECTS

Supplement Projects is a non-commercial arts platform with a focus on highlighting marginalized or under-represented artists, curators, activists, and cultural practitioners.

Wave Maker Grant



2020 Ellies Award

2020 - 2021

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OCCUPY LEISURE

For "Occupy Leisure," a mobile living space conceptualized by Gonzalez and fellow artist Najja Moon that provides queer artists of color with a site for relaxation, inspired by the work and archive of queer black femme architect Amaza Lee Meredith.

A SENSE OF PRIDE SYMPOSIUM VISUAL ACTIVISTS AND NEW IDENTITIES

2020 - 2021

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NSU ART MUSEUM

NSU Art Museum Miami recently launched a symposium with national and local artists, curators and activists for a one-day symposium on issues about the LGBTQ+ art community.

GEOVANNA GONZALEZ

A group panel discussion with, GeoVanna Gonzalez and artists who identify as queer individuals of color in America on issues of identity, representation and race as they pertain to their LGBTQ+ communities and experiences.

LATINX SESSIONS

2020 - 2021

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PÉREZ ART MUSEUM

Pérez Art Museum Miami recently launched the Latin American and Latinx Art Fund, a new affiliate group created to support exhibitions and programming at PAMM for Latin American and Latinx artists.

GEOVANNA GONZALEZ

In this video, we're highlighting Latinx visual artist GeoVanna Gonzalez from Los Angeles who is currently based between Miami and Berlin.

[Link to video](#)

ELEPHANT

INTERVIEW

2020 - 2021

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WHAT DOES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MEAN TO YOU?

"International Women's Day is an opportunity to honour the women who have been at the forefront of fighting against gender inequality, and bringing solidarity through physical, spiritual, and virtual outlets.



It is a day to reflect on the work that still remains, knowing that many women continue to be unheard, excluded from civil rights as institutional and government practices are both progressing and regressing. IWD is a day to continue to protest against discrimination and inequities in education, economics, and legal rights in society. It is a day to remind us to look beyond our borders, our bodies and race, and to think about how we can make future progress daily."

[Elephant Magazine](#)

MISSY MAGAZINE

EXHIBITION PHOTOS



2020 - 2021

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Featured in Issue #4 2018

Missy is a Berlin based magazine
discussing the intersections between
pop, politics and feminism.

KubaParis

HAPTIC HOUSE REVIEW

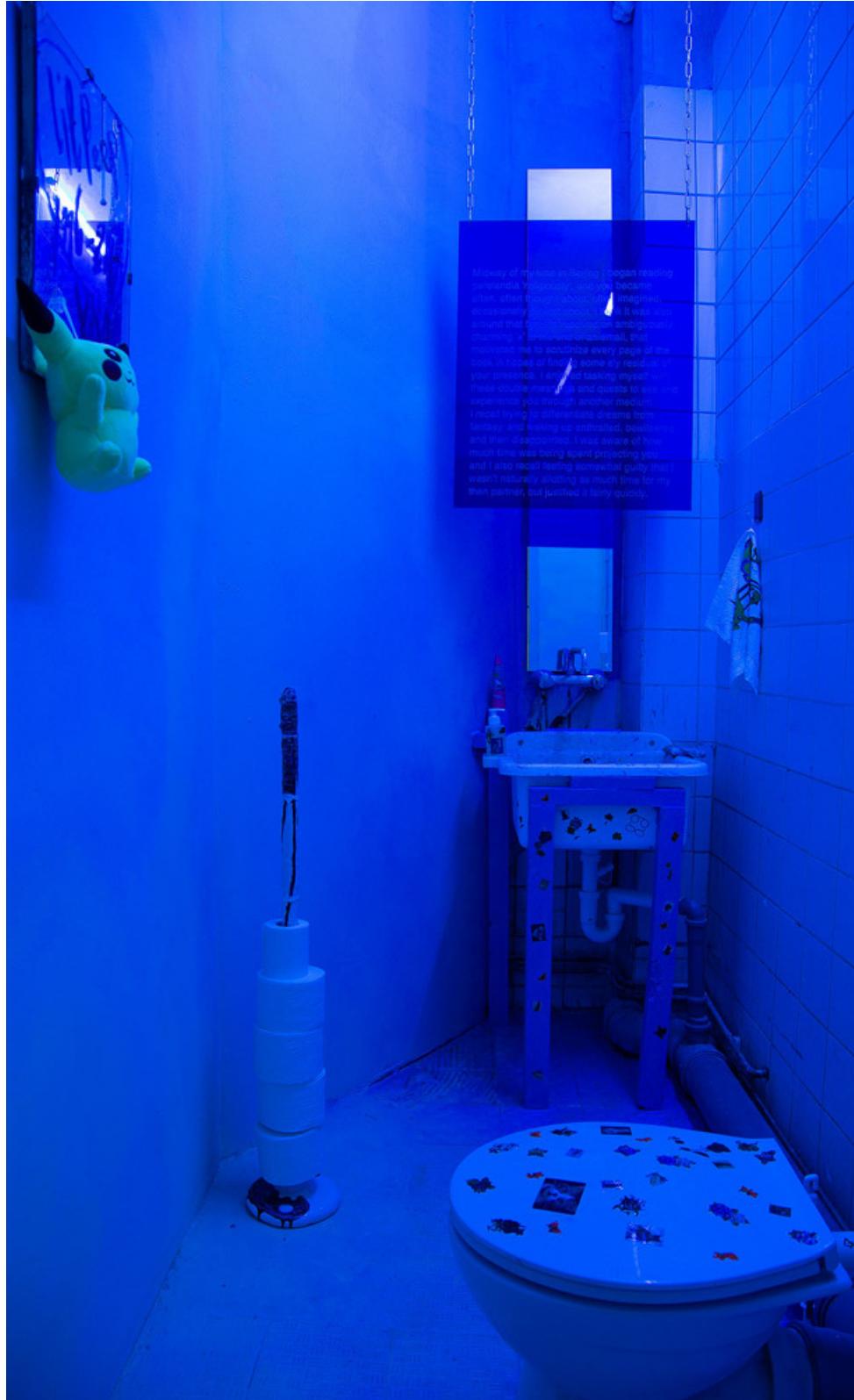
2020 - 2021

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Individual and collective subjectivity, as well as private and public space are also blurred in GeoVanna Gonzalez's site-specific installation "Keep down the blinds and fold" (feat. Monika Grabuschnigg, 2018). Located in the single restroom of the art space, it is shielded from the rest of the exhibition and bathed in dreamy blue light.

The visitor experiences an intimate rendezvous with different practices of commemoration, somewhere between fandom, fictionalised memoirs and animism.



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.

Locust Projects 2020-2021 exhibitions and programming are made possible with support from: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust; Berkowitz Contemporary Foundation; The National Endowment for the Arts Art Works Grant; Hillsdale Fund; the Albert and Jane Nahmad Family Foundation; VIA Art Fund | Wagner Incubator Grant; Funding Arts Network; The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation at The Miami Foundation; Susan and Richard Arregui; Kirk Foundation; Miami Salon Group; Scott Hodes; Jones Day; Community Recovery Fund at The Miami Foundation and the Wege Foundation; and the donors to the Still Making Art Happen Campaign and Locust Projects Exhibitionist members.

