

locustprojects

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127
305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org

****MEDIA ALERT****

**Locust Projects Presents *HOW TO: Oh, look at me*,
Video Premiere by GeoVanna Gonzalez
Thursday, April 15, at SoundScape Park from Sundown to 9:30pm**



Film still from GeoVanna Gonzalez, *HOW TO: Oh, look at me*, 2021

[Miami: March, 2021] A new video work by GeoVanna Gonzalez premieres to the public for free at New World Symphony's SoundScape Park on April 15 from 7:30-9:30pm in conjunction with the City of Miami Beach's Culture Crawl and Poetry Month. Commissioned by Locust Projects in conjunction with the artist's current exhibition on view through May 22, the public screening of the new video at the spacious outdoor venue at SoundScape Park provides a safe, socially-distanced means of exchange and engagement essential to Gonzalez's work.

HOW TO: Oh, look at me is a film that captures the multi-layered, interdisciplinary performance by GeoVanna Gonzalez, conceived as an activation of her sculptural installation of the same name. The performance features an original musical score by Batrypowr, involves two dancers, Cheina Ramos and Alondra Balbuena, and two poets, Zaina Alsous and Arsimmer McCoy, who interact with and exist within the structure.

locustprojects

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127
305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org

In the film, two dancers mirror each other, executing controlled, restrained movements in canon. They move in and around the structure independently, separately, as if following their own invisible trajectory. The choreography captures the removed feeling of technology and virtual communication, while also incorporating the organic, visceral nature of the human body and face-to-face communication. Throughout the film, the dancers find moments of encounter: they meet each other's gaze briefly or reach out to each other longingly before continuing on their course. It is in these momentary, albeit intense, interactions that we are reminded of ourselves through the other. The music is composed of amorphous sounds syncretized to expand and contract until they become individual notes in their simplest form. Simultaneously, the poets recite words they've written in response to the installation, an accompaniment to the movements and the music around them.

Through the film, Gonzalez examines how forms of communication and miscommunication, both in person and mediated, reflect our self-awareness and condition our perception of those around us. The structure is Gonzalez's visual interpretation of Martin Jackson's poem, "No Rothko", created through a series of errors that developed from a voice to text algorithm. It is these "errors" — the misunderstandings, the technological glitches, the anomalies of language — that enable the creation and manifestation of alternative narratives and possibilities for living.

Gonzalez's film functions as an added layer of meaning, a translation of a translation. The diversity of mediums simultaneously occurring and occupying creates a *living* installation where each of the performers is communicating with and in spite of one another. *HOW TO: Oh, look at me* is a compendium of movements, sounds, voices, a space for otherness.

Look at me. Oh, look at me. We have to start now. The last lines of the poem are both an affirmation of existence, as much as a begging call; a plea to be understood, as much as a stance in defiance.

— by Laura Novoa, Curatorial + Public
Programs Associate at Bakehouse Art Complex

The exhibition **GeoVanna Gonzalez: HOW TO: Oh, look at me** is commissioned by Locust Projects and made possible, in part, with support from Oolite Arts, Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator (DVCAI), and Pulp Arts.

The video is commissioned by Locust Projects in partnership with Miami Light Project, Kismet Creative Studio, and Commissioner and premieres on April 15 in SoundScape Park thanks to additional support from the City of Miami Beach Department of Tourism and Culture, Cultural Affairs Program, Cultural Arts Council and the Miami Beach Mayor and City Commissioners. **Special thanks to: Dancers:** Cheina Ramos & Alondra Balbuena; **Poets:** Zaina Alsous and Arsimmer McCoy; **Musician:** Batrypowr; **Producer:** Monica Sorelle, & **Cinematographer:** Jessica Bennett.

locustprojects

3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33127
305.576.8570 | info@locustprojects.org | www.locustprojects.org

VIDEO PREMIERE:

Film screening: GeoVanna Gonzalez: *HOW TO: Oh, look at me*
Thursday, April 15, 7:30-9:30pm
Soundscape Park, 400 17th St, Miami Beach, FL 33139

EXHIBITION:

GeoVanna Gonzalez: *HOW TO: Oh, look at me*
Wednesdays-Saturdays, 11am-5pm
By appointment and walk-in by capacity
[Appointment link](#)
Locust Projects, 3852 North Miami Avenue, Miami FL, 33127

PRESS RELEASES:

[Press kit and images available here](#)

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.

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.

ART HAPPENS HERE.