

Highlights of Available Work



locustprojects



Paul Amundarain

Multiple Realities, 2019

Box, wood, acrylic mirror, acrylic paint

13 x 8 x 6 inches

When we read the union of these two words "Multiple Realities" the first things that come to our minds are physical theories and parallel dimensions. An interesting topic to go depth. But I'm not bringing these words to develop extreme theories. I use the concept of Multiple Realities to understand our physical realities, of which we are participants day by day in our natural context as humans who coexist in the same physical space and time. Reality is defined as everything that is real. It is all that possesses qualities and characteristics that make it exist. From this idea, the question arises. How could we define our own reality and the path through it that allows us, in some cases, to change our states, conditions or circumstances? We have the power as human beings to change our position and perspective.

Paul Amundarain (n. 1985) belongs to a generation that received the legacy of the grid – a form that allowed modernity to be structured – already deconstructed. As a newcomer to the United States, his work contains a biographical and aesthetic record of the pursuit of paradise that is often fulfilled in enclosed horizons. At the same time, he has learned the lessons of survival that in depressed neighborhoods make it possible to manufacture necessary objects with materials discarded by other social sectors. Trash is recycled as art.



Johanna Boccardo

Las Vacas Cubanas, 2018

Watercolor, ink, acrylic, colored pencil

30 x 22 inches

Johanna Boccardo is a Miami-based Venezuelan artist with an ample creative career that includes editorial illustration, product design and fine arts. A graduate of the Ringling School of Art, she has lived and worked in Barcelona, Miami and Venezuela. Through the masterful use of different media, Boccardo explores the application and interaction of color sequences to develop abstract ideas and concepts at various levels of non-literal meaning. In her work on paper, she uses advanced color theory to deepen the effects of emotionally charged chromatic results, often by using complex layers of geometry, color and texture.



Randy Butman

Bridge of 100 Matchsticks, 2014

Found wood crate, 100 wood matchsticks, balsa wood strips, 2 H0 scale figurines.

10 ½ x 13 x 7 inches

From the Shibui Boxes series. As its name indicates in Japanese and as understood by the western world as that subtle balance between complexity and simplicity. One of the most beautiful is a kind of visual haiku: Bridge of 100 Matchsticks, in one of many allegories recalls that when one moves with determination, “burned bridges light the final path.” Originally created as part of a series for an exhibition curated by Ruben Torres-Llorca at Juan Ruiz Gallery.

I have a serious preoccupation with the intuitive aspects of art making. There is an internal dichotomy that drives my creative process on several levels: I’m compelled to make serious statements, but find myself subverting that goal with irreverent humor. Precise execution is integral, yet playful strategies are often a point of departure. Though I toggle between these parts of my practice, the recurring result is work that engages the alchemy of juxtaposed elements, meanings and scale. Though the execution is very exact, the starting point is often circumstantial. Placing found objects next to each other might act as the beginning of a piece. Other times work comes out of the leftover materials from separate projects or the appropriation of visual material from a swathe of sources. The resulting sculptures, installations, paintings and print media explore themes of metaphysical confrontation and identity while often encouraging dynamic interaction with the audience.



Christopher Byrd

Forms (Red, Blue, Orange), 2014

Acrylic and pencil on canvas

24 x 36 inches

The paintings of Chris Byrd explore ideas of Identity, the creation of Meaning and the search Truth that come about through the contemplation of the self-existing in the contemporary world. Bringing together ideas from the history of Abstraction yet made current by the systemization of Arts formal language of line, color and form, rendered in a graphic, hard-edged presentation that eludes to the omnipresent language of design and advertising, at once making the work Classical and Contemporary. He holds a Master of Fine Arts from American University in Washington, DC and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Atlanta College of Art in Atlanta, Georgia. The artist lives and works in Miami, Florida.



Pablo Contrisciani

Accumulation # 005, 2018

Mixed media on canvas

20 x 20 inches

Framed

This artwork is part of a new series of paintings that I started to create last year. I call them Accumulation series. They are very rich in texture and color. The surface is very shine and glossy. I used mixed media techniques applied in several layers and accumulation of different materials to create a tactile experience. These artworks can be perceived as reliefs or as paintings. It's connected with the sculptures made with assemblages of car's parts by John Chamberlain. The point in this body of works is not that painting and sculpture are intimately linked, but that painting and sculpture exist only in relationship to the viewer. I use different materials to provoke optical effects and tactile sensations. These pieces don't have a real space and there is not a center focus. Each part of one same work of art is strong enough and different from the rest. I explore the unity in the diversity of elements used.



John DeFaro

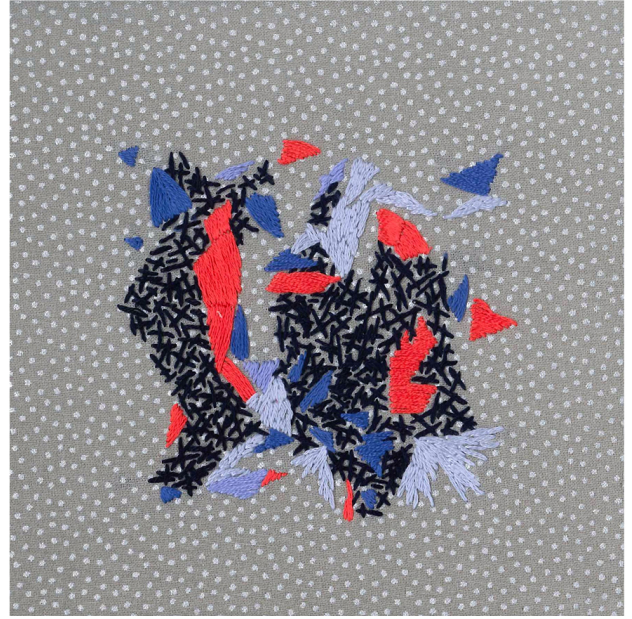
Nor'easter, 2019

Acrylic, pencil, charcoal. Archival marker on cotton canvas

30 x 24 inches

Framed

John DeFaro is a multidisciplinary visual artist and designer. John's work as a visual artist was first influenced as a youth in an apprentice type of mode from his one-on-one connections with numerous renowned artists who were neighbors in the Hamptons, NY. From age 25-27 John worked as an assistant in Southampton for Henry Geldzahler, the noted curator, critic and public official whose enthusiastic advocacy of contemporary art made his name synonymous with the art scene in NYC for three decades, in the 60's through the 80's. In 1991 John then began sketching new ideas for early American furniture, which led him to his next venture. At the age of 29 John created original home furnishing designs for Lexington Home Brands in Thomasville, NC. In recent years his work has moved in new directions in installation, drawing and painting that return him to his initial impulses focused on the environment, nature and found materials. From 2015-2017 John served as the Executive Assistant for Tigertail Productions. He is also a recipient of two Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs Artist Access grants. Most recent John became the assistant to art conservator Viviana Dominguez, owner and founder of Art Conservators Lab, LLC in Miami and Artistic Director for Books & Books in Coconut Grove.



Gianna DiBartolomeo

Fragmented Flowers XII + XXXV, 2018

Embroidery on cotton

6 x 6 inches

Flowers can mark a variety of occasions: some happy (anniversary, congratulations, romance) and others, not so (funeral, get well, cheer up). This one motif could be seen from multiple perspectives: while flowers might make one smile, they might make another cry.

Gianna DiBartolomeo is a mixed-media artist born and raised in Miami, Florida. Gianna earned her Master of Fine Arts program at Florida International University, where she previously obtained her Bachelors Fine Arts. Gianna was a Florida International University Ratcliffe Art + Design Incubator Fellow and participating artist for Vizcaya Museum and Gardens CAP Lab. Locally, Gianna's work has been exhibited during Aqua Art Fair during Art Basel Miami Beach, in the historic Moore Building in Miami's Design District, at Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, on a Venetian Post In front of Mercedes-Benz of Coral Gables, and in various group and solo exhibitions. Gianna also has shown in various exhibitions in New York, Chicago, Seattle, Las Vegas, Toronto, and Spain. Charity also plays a role in Gianna's work. She believes in the importance of giving back and has donated artwork to numerous charities and fundraising events and enjoys volunteering her time as a visiting artist to local schools and organizations.



Sheila Elias

Dreamscape, 2018

Mixed media on canvas

14 x 30 inches

Interweaving a vast array of photographs as well as other graphic representations have all become part of this canvas piece. Figurative and dynamic images have influenced my art in dramatic ways.

Originally an undergraduate from the Art Institute of Chicago, I moved to LA, where I received my Masters of Fine Art (MFA) as a painter, photographer, and sculptor. Currently I reside in Miami, FL. Primarily I am known for installation art, and collages made by combining paint and photographs. My work has been shown widely in museums and galleries throughout the United States and abroad over the past three decades, including the New York Public Library, Bass Museum in Miami Beach, and the Musee des Arts Decoratifs at the Louvre Museum in Paris. Although I am primarily known for my multimedia paintings, I recently decided to venture into the realm of technology, by creating a new vision on my iPad. With the use of my finger I began to discover a new way of painting: through pixels. The iPad differs from traditional media with its immediate, experimental effects. My work is about the layers of life and art history, seeking in it a connection between art aesthetics and social consciousness. American sensibilities have influenced my life, the hues of my country found in the colors of my art. I like to bring an awareness of new directions and individual inventiveness. The evolution of technology has always paralleled my work throughout its development. Through life experience, I incorporate visual, emotional, and psychological impressions and feed them into my art.



Mark Fleuridor

Sr. Anna Portrait, 2019

Acrylic and Guache on Watercolor Paper

18 x 24 inches

The artwork "Sr. Anna Portrait 2019" is a horizontal portrait of my mother Anna.

Mark Fleuridor was born and raised in Miami, Florida. He graduated from the Maryland Institute College of Art with a BFA in Painting. Fleuridor recently completed the Vermont Studio Center Artist Residency (VT) and the Oxbow Artist Residency (MI). Fleuridor explores his own personal history within his Haitian background and familial religious experiences. These topics are explored through mediums such as painting, performance, quilting and collage.



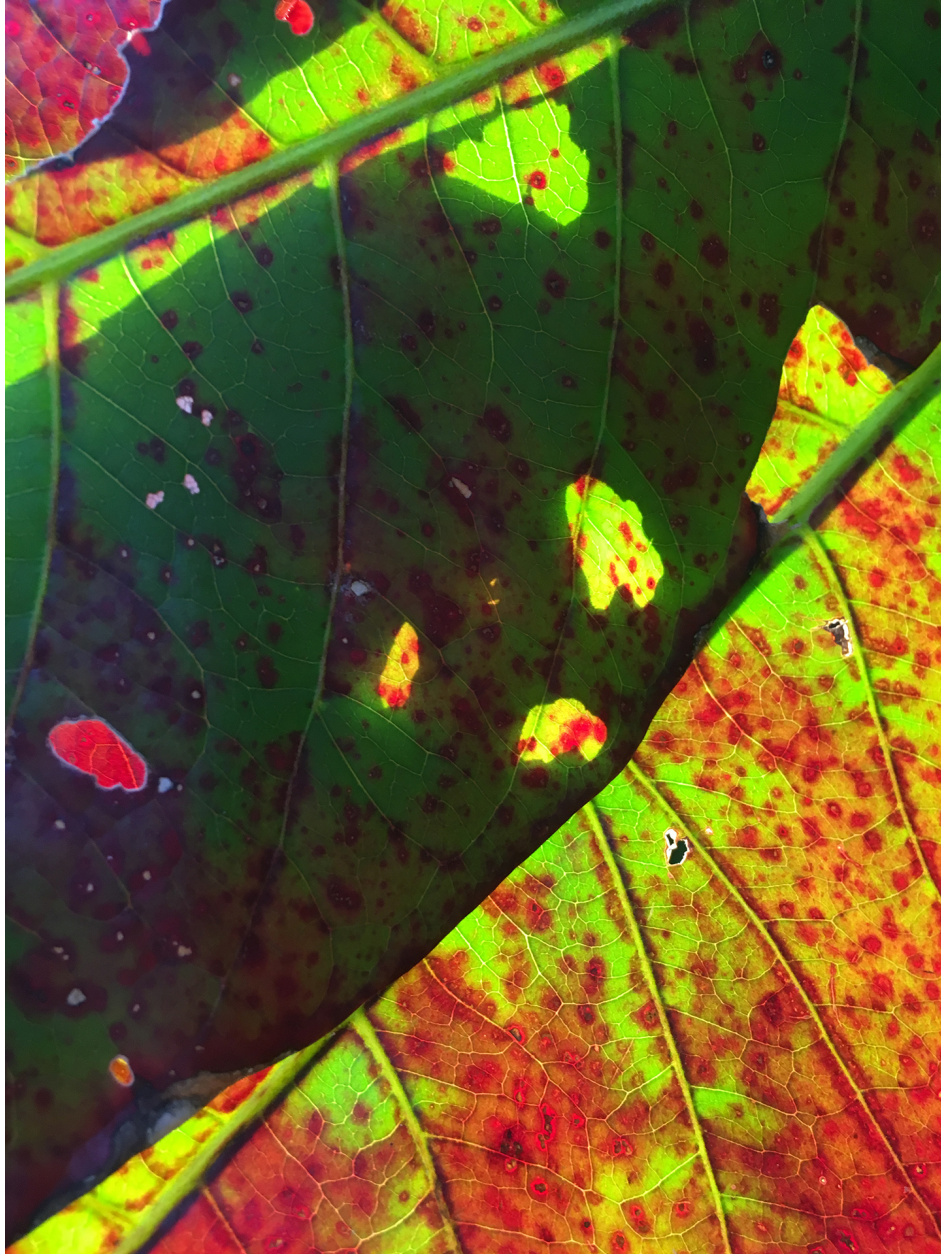
Gonzalo Fuenmayor

God Bless Latin America, 2019

Screenprint on paper

15 ¼ x 22 ½ inches

Gonzalo Fuenmayor was born in Barranquilla, Colombia in 1977. He received an MFA from School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, MA in 2004, and a BFA in Fine Arts and Art Education from School of Visual Arts in 2000, where he was awarded a full tuition scholarship from the Keith Haring Foundation. He has been awarded numerous awards including a 2018 Ellies Creator Award, a 2018 Harpo Foundation Award, a 2015 South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship for Visual and Media Artists, Traveling Fellowship by the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in 2014, among others. Fuenmayor has exhibited in numerous solo and group shows in USA, Latin America and Europe; his work was recently showcased in The Florida Prize 2018, Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, a solo exhibition "Tropical Mythologies" at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in 2015, "Caribbean Crossroads" Exhibition at the Queens Museum, NY, as well as recent solo shows at Dot Fiftyone Gallery and El Museo Gallery in Bogotá in 2018. In 2019 he will be resident at The South Florida Art Center where he will be working on two upcoming solo shows at Dolby Chadwick Gallery in San Francisco, CA and Fernando Pradilla Gallery in Madrid, Spain. He currently lives and works in Miami, FL and is represented by Dot Fiftyone Gallery, Miami and Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco and El Museo Gallery in Bogotá, Colombia.



Carol Jazar

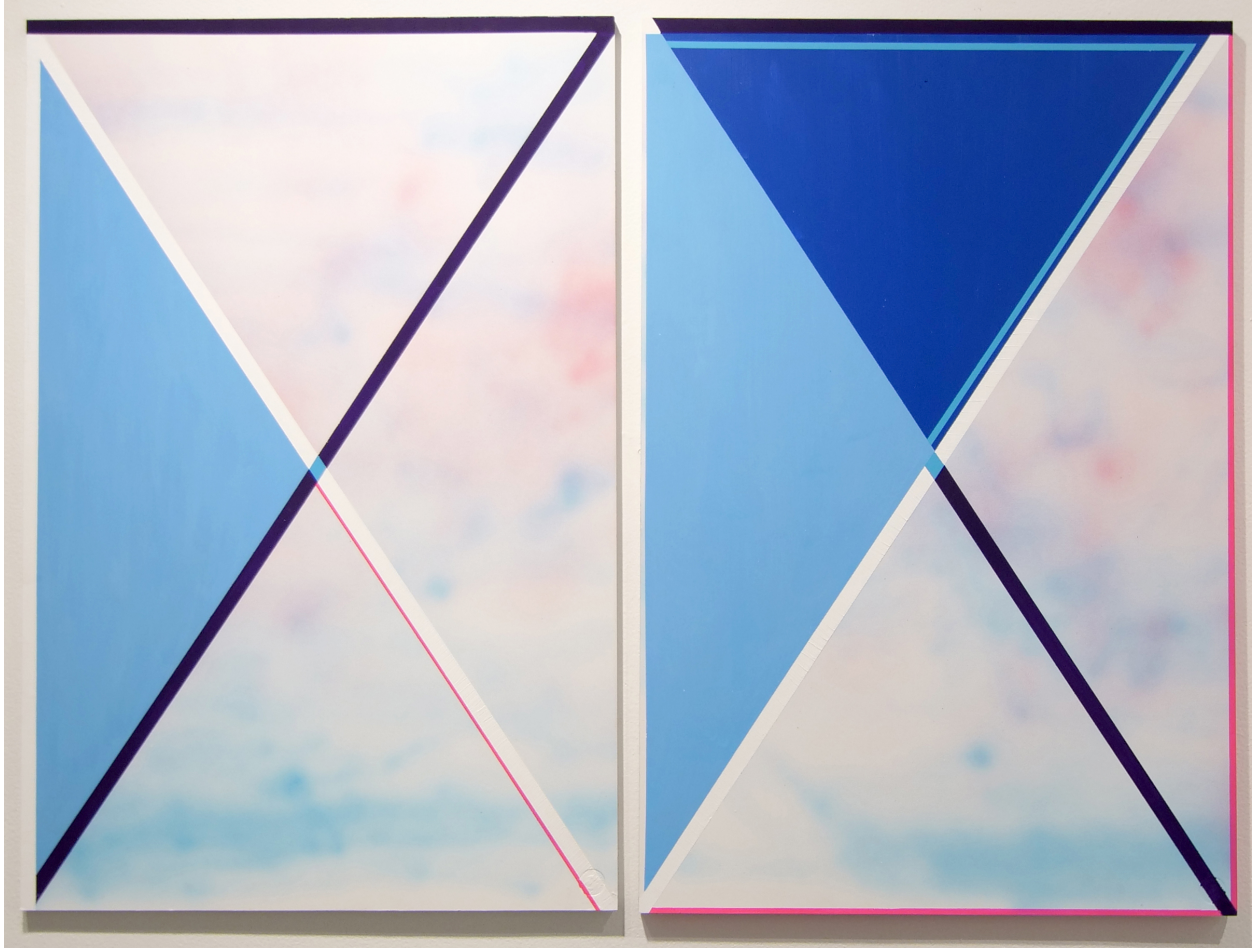
From Series "Ode to Nature" Part II, 2018

C-Print on archival paper

5 x 7 inches

Framed

My artistic practice is based on contemplation and self-reflection. The primary subject of my observations is Nature, be that of a topic related to Mother Nature or the study of my own nature and the interplay of both aspects. This dual practice allows me to connect with the inner and outer worlds and to become a human bridge between the two and then imply this understanding into divers creative endeavors.



Kelley Johnson

Untitled, 2018

Acrylic and vinyl paint on panel

30 x 40 in

Kelley Johnson was born (1973) in Houston, Texas and grew up in St. Louis, Missouri. He received an MFA from Indiana University and a BFA from Parson School of Design. Growing up in the mid-west Kelley began working in construction at a young age, using materials commonly found in wood framed houses. He was influenced by the idea of framing and applies it to his structures and spaces. His work has been featured in publications such as *The Miami Herald*, *Art Net*, *Art Zealous*, *New American Paintings*, *Miami Rail* and others.



Terry Kaplan

Flash Did Not See This Coming, 2019

Print, wood, glass beads and vintage textiles

27 x 23 inches

Framed

Flash Gordon saved the world from Ming the Merciless. This is not what his audience imagined the future to be like. Our world is not being threatened by an evil emperor from another planet, but by the evils among us.

I have been working in mixed media for the last 5 years after 25 years of working with clay. I have taught ceramics, participated in group and solo shows as well as designed hand painted tile for designers and showrooms throughout the U.S. and internationally. My interests now are in learning, discovering and experimenting in themes that relate to sci-fi, futurism and our world today. I use vintage textiles, photography, pyrography and collage to build the work.



Molly McGreevy

Green Heron, 2019

Mixed media: ink fabric, paper, canvas and vinyl

24 x 18 inches

Framed

3D/layered green heron in a 2" deep frame. The bird is depicted in manner of iconography, representing the struggle of Florida's wildlife against development and environmental degradation by the sugar industry. Heron is holding a copy of River of Grass. Behind the figure are industrial survey maps embedded with info from newspaper articles. Pieces from work are cut out from fabrics, papers, canvas, and vinyl and also includes jewelry, gold trim and a sugar cube.

Molly McGreevy is a Miami-based mixed media artist who is currently at J&M Studio at Collective62.



Pj Mills

Can-o-Gas, 2018

Oil on paper

18 x 18 inches

Framed

PJ Mills was born in Spokane Washington the son of an US Air Force Pilot. He has lived most of his life in the southern United States with the exception of a few years in Europe. He studied at Cornell University under the Cornell Fellowship and a grant from the Andrew D. White Foundation for the Visual Arts. His work has been exhibited in galleries and museums across the US and his work is in public and private collections. He has an active studio at the Fountainhead Studios in Miami and resides in Miami with his wife, cat and dog.



Jenene Nagy

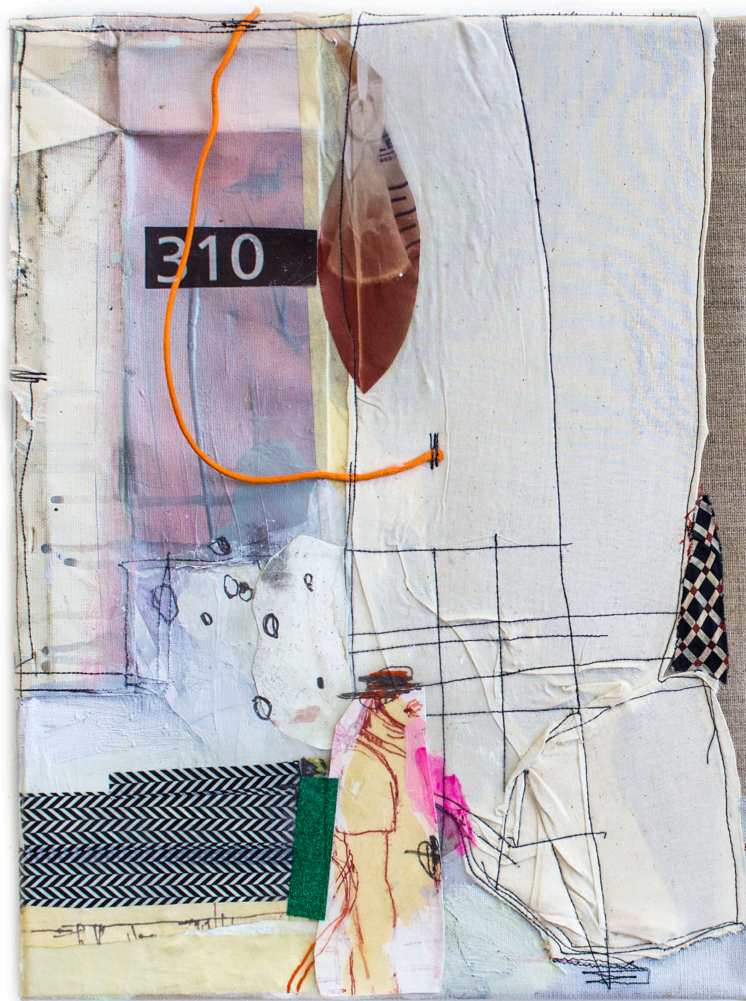
weight/object 7, 2017

Oil on paper

10 x 10 inches

Framed

Jenene Nagy is a visual artist living and working in the Inland Empire. She received her BFA from the University of Arizona in 1998 and her MFA from the University of Oregon in 2004. Nagy's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally at venues including the Portland Art Museum, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Southern Exposure in San Francisco, Takt Kunstprojektraum in Berlin, and Samuel Freeman in Los Angeles, among others. Her work has been recognized with grants and awards from the Foundation of Contemporary Art, the Oregon Arts Commission, Colorado Creative Industries, and the Ford Family Foundation. Along with a rigorous studio practice, Nagy is one half of the curatorial team TILT Export: an independent art initiative with no fixed location, working in partnership with a variety of venues to produce exhibitions. From 2011-12 she was the first Curator-in-Residence for Disjecta Contemporary Art Center in Portland, Oregon.



Jee Park

Room 310, 2019

Mixed media on fabric

16 x 12 inches

Framed

Born in Seoul, Korea Jee Park came to New York City, earned a bachelor of fine arts from School of Visual Arts and a Masters from New York University. She started her current project loosely based on her father's diagnosis. Her work deals with loss, illness, and decay. She uses a variety of found materials, as well as medical tubing, gauze, and textiles. Fabrics are stitched, and hand dyed, combined with collage and various forms of mark making. These works allude to human flesh and wounds, the ephemeral, and the body in nature. She currently lives and works in Miami, Florida.



Karen Rifas

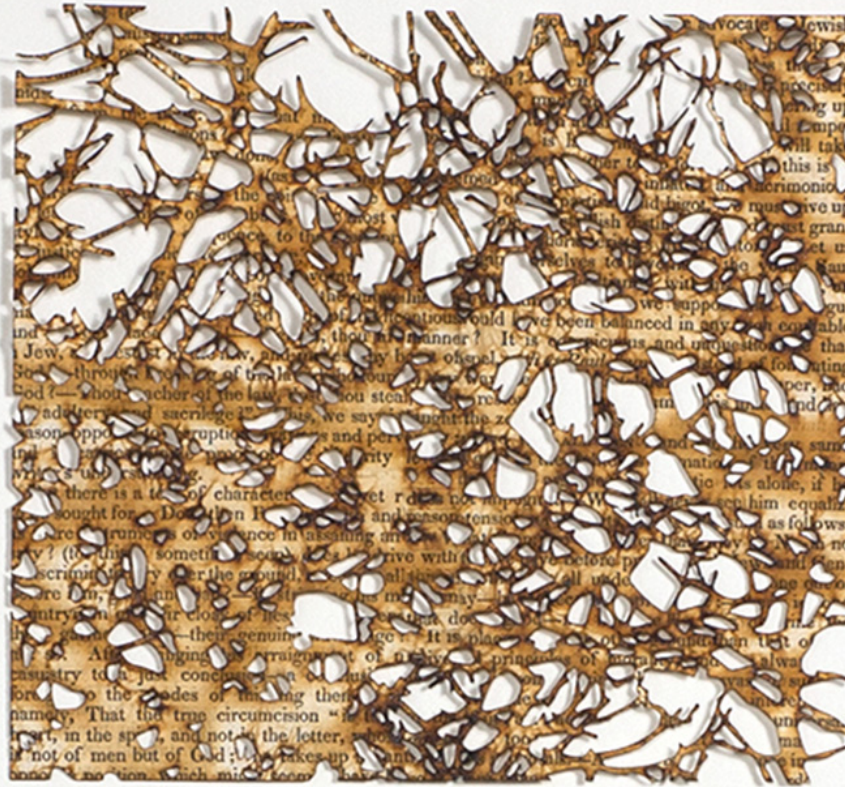
7431-Locust, 2019

Acrylic on gessobord

12 x 12 x $\frac{3}{4}$ inches

Framed

Karen Rifas was born in Chicago and lives and works in Miami. She received her MFA from the University of Miami and has taught at many institutions including New World School of the Arts. Many of her works are site-specific installations, geometric in configuration and utilize materials such as paint, vinyl, stitched leaves, cord or steel cable. Her drawings and paintings are linear and/or geometric and are usually made with acrylic on paper or on wood panels. Recent one person exhibitions include "Deceptive Constructions", 2018 at The Bass Museum, "Per Forms", 2017 at Emerson Dorsch Gallery, "2016" at Meeting House Gallery and "Macchietta: Small Sketches by Karen Rifas", 2015 at MDC Museum of Art and Design. Rifas has an extensive exhibition record in Berlin, Brazil, Republic of Panama, Chile, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Santo Domingo, New York, Ohio, Illinois, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida. She works with Emerson Dorsch Gallery in Miami. Rifas has been awarded Florida Visual Arts and South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowships. Her work is in the collections of The Bass Museum, Perez Art Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, NSU Museum of Art, Ft. Lauderdale and Museo de Arte de Ponce, Ponce, Puerto Rico. Other work is on permanent view on Royal Caribbean's Oasis of the Sea and the Florida Department of Transportation, Miami.



Donna Ruff

Fanatic6, 2019

Burn on book pages

6 x 6 inches

Framed

Book pages from *Fanaticism: the Outgrowth of Enthusiasm* 19th c. letterpress book, laser cut.

Donna Ruff's art explores the effects of time and communication, in thematic and material ways. Working mostly with various papers, some of them repurposed from books and newspapers, she cuts or burns compelling, complex patterns to create a rich relationship between positive and negative space, and bring focus to our ability to take note of culture and events. Her work is in the collections of the Library of Congress, Smith College Museum, the Morgan Library, J.P. Morgan Chase Collection, and the New Mexico Museum of Art, as well as many private collections.



Capucine Safir

Wounded, 2016

Plaster, resin paint

20 x 20 x 8 inches

Capucine Safir is a French-born professional sculptor currently based in Miami, Florida. She is known for the refinement of her smooth and organic sculptures in stone, plaster and fiberglass. Her pieces are featured at exhibits across the States, within several private collections and regularly during Art Basel/Miami Art Week. Capucine is also represented by Maria Elena Kravetz, Alessandro Berni Gallery and Artlink galleries.

“My work is about reshaping reality by giving smoothness and sensuality to my sculptures.” - Capucine Safir



Jill Schwartz

Embrace, 2019

C-Print on Metallic Paper

30 x 45 inches

Embrace is the perfect name for this portrait of two trees that are so tightly intertwined that they cannot be separated. The depth of the image allows the viewer to really feel their connection.

I am a self-taught photographer who has a unique perspective in what lies within the surface of trees. The extreme depth and intense textures graphed on the epidermis of my natural subjects are enhanced by my choice of printing on metallic paper. my goal is to enable the viewer to absorb the likeness to humans that I see from behind the lens.



Mateo Serna Zapata

Ramos de Ramos, 2017

Photography

60 x 40 inches

Framed

Part of the series, *Congruous Contradictions*, this work focuses on the contrast found within our own bodies. These contrasts are what make us unique and lend a hand for us to thrive.

Colombian-born, Miami-raised, Mateo is a photo-based artist. Growing up amongst a predominantly Latin culture, observing the striking humanistic similarities within the city serve as a muse to create work that emphasizes the beauty found within life. Being drawn to the peculiar exploration of the human experience, Mateo uses the camera as a tool to navigate through conversations that develop through organic interactions between people and the environment. Focusing on the premise that process is more important than product, the main drive of the artist rests within establishing a relationship with his subjects so that they, through dialogue unravel a guarded trust and thus illuminate their true essence. His work has been exhibited in MOCA, New World Gallery, Cisneros-Fontanals Art Foundation, Mindy Solomon Gallery and Coral Gables Museum. Mateo received his BFA from University of Florida through New World School of the Arts. He is currently participating in an Artist Residency at the Bakehouse Art Complex.



Stuart Sheldon

All The Light We Cannot See, 2017

Acrylic, inkjet book cover, paper on paper

16 ½ x 15 inches

Framed

Much of my work includes deconstructed classic literature, typically books that have moved me. Few have moved me as deeply as this Pulitzer Prize Winner.

Stuart Sheldon is best known for his meticulous collage paintings and large-scale, immersive installations with themes exploring language, classic literature and social justice. His 2018 billboard, *How Was School Today?*, appeared on I-95 for two months as part of For Freedoms' 50 State Initiative and will be featured in an exhibition and town hall discussion at PAMM November 7, 2019. Sheldon won a 2108 Ellies Creator Award from Oolite Arts, honoring "the backbone of Miami's visual arts community." His work has been featured at re:publica Berlin, Apollinaire Fine Arts London, MOCA, North Miami, Art Miami, SCOPE and Pinta. Sheldon's paintings have been commissioned by the Braman family, Royal Caribbean Cruises and For Freedoms. As a 2018 ProjectArt artist-in-residence, Sheldon taught art to children in an underserved Miami public library. He created and hosted the public television project, *Meet Your Makers*, in collaboration with PBS and The New Tropic; it aired at PAMM in 2017. His 2015 *Fancy Nasty* installation was deemed "Miami's Wierdest Place" by Bas Fisher Invitational's *Weird Miami* Bus Tour. Sheldon co-founded *Streaming Media Magazine* in San Francisco and pens thoughts on art, humor and life in his *Family Matters* column for the *Biscayne Times*. The *Los Angeles Times* wrote, "To him, it's about urging people 'at a granular level' to start over, with less fear and more optimism."



Gabriel J. Shuldiner

ICEBITER, 2019

postapocalypticblack®* [modified acrylic polymer emulsion, carbon black pigment, calcium carbonate, water, modified industrial urethane enamel, modified polyurethane thermoset cellular plastic, vinyl acrylic co-polymer emulsion, acrylic stain-block sealant, concrete, solvent-based ink, spit, nuisance dust, air]*proprietary, stretched sized cotton duck canvas, wood, stainless steel staples

4.5 x 4.5 X 1.25 inches

Applied in thick layers on a multitude of substrates, Gabriel J. Shuldiner meticulously bends, scrapes and sculpts his proprietary black material, creating mysterious areas both smooth and rough that proportionately reflect, refract, distort and absorb observable levels of electromagnetic radiation. A native New Yorker, Gabriel J. Shuldiner was born and raised in Manhattan, New York City. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business and Philosophy from New York University and a Master of Fine Arts in Painting and Sculpture from Parsons the New School for Design. He has previously studied at the School of Visual Arts and International Center for Photography. Upon graduating from Parsons, Gabriel J. Shuldiner was selected by the Bronx Museum of the Arts 'Artist in the Marketplace' emerging artist program, and the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts studio residency program, where he spent several years. Gabriel J. Shuldiner's self-described "brutemimalist®" work has been exhibited nationally and internationally at select galleries, museums, institutions and avant-garde boutiques. He lives and works in Manhattan's West Chelsea, where he currently maintains his studio.



Alette Simmons-Jimenez

Love & Marriage, 2017

Mixed-Media Collage

13 ½ x 16 x 1 ½ inches

Framed

The work of Miami based interdisciplinary artist Alette Simmons-Jiménez, has been presented in international biennials, media screenings, and exhibitions at institutions such as: Tenerife Espacio de las Artes, Canary Islands (2019); Art & Cultural Center, Hollywood, Florida (2018); Ritter Art Gallery, Florida Atlantic University (2016); AIE (Art in Embassies Program), Riyadh (2015); the Frost Art Museum, Miami (2015); the Boca Raton Museum (2014); the Appleton Museum, Ocala (2010); Chelsea Art Museum, NY (2007); MOCA, North Miami (2003); AIE (Art in Embassies Program) Tegucigalpa, Honduras (1999); the Museo de Arte Moderno, Santo Domingo (1992); the Musee du Luxembourg, Paris (1989) and others. She has presented solo exhibits at Oolite Arts (2018); Artformz Alternative, Miami (2010); Palm Beach ICA (2001), the Frances Wolfson Gallery (2001); the Art Gallery/Inter-American Development Bank, DC (2000); Creative Resource Gallery, Birmingham, MI (1999); the Museo de Arte Moderno, Santo Domingo (1997); and A.I.R. Altos de Chavon, La Romana (1983). Her twenty-sixth solo show is slated for early 2020 at S/223 located in the Miami Design District. Simmons-Jimenez has been awarded an invitation to attend Ifitry Arts Residency in October 2019, in Morocco. In 1992, after receiving the 1st Prize in Video at the XVIII Biennial in the Dominican Republic, she was named a pioneer in video art and gender discourses as the first woman to exhibit video installation art in the country. Simmons-Jiménez's work is held in public collections of institutions such as the Mobile Museum of Art; 21c Museum, Louisville; Museo de Arte Moderno, Santo Domingo; the Dominican-American Cultural Institute, Santo Domingo; and Museo de las Casas Reales, Santo Domingo.



Lisu Vega

Untitled, 2019

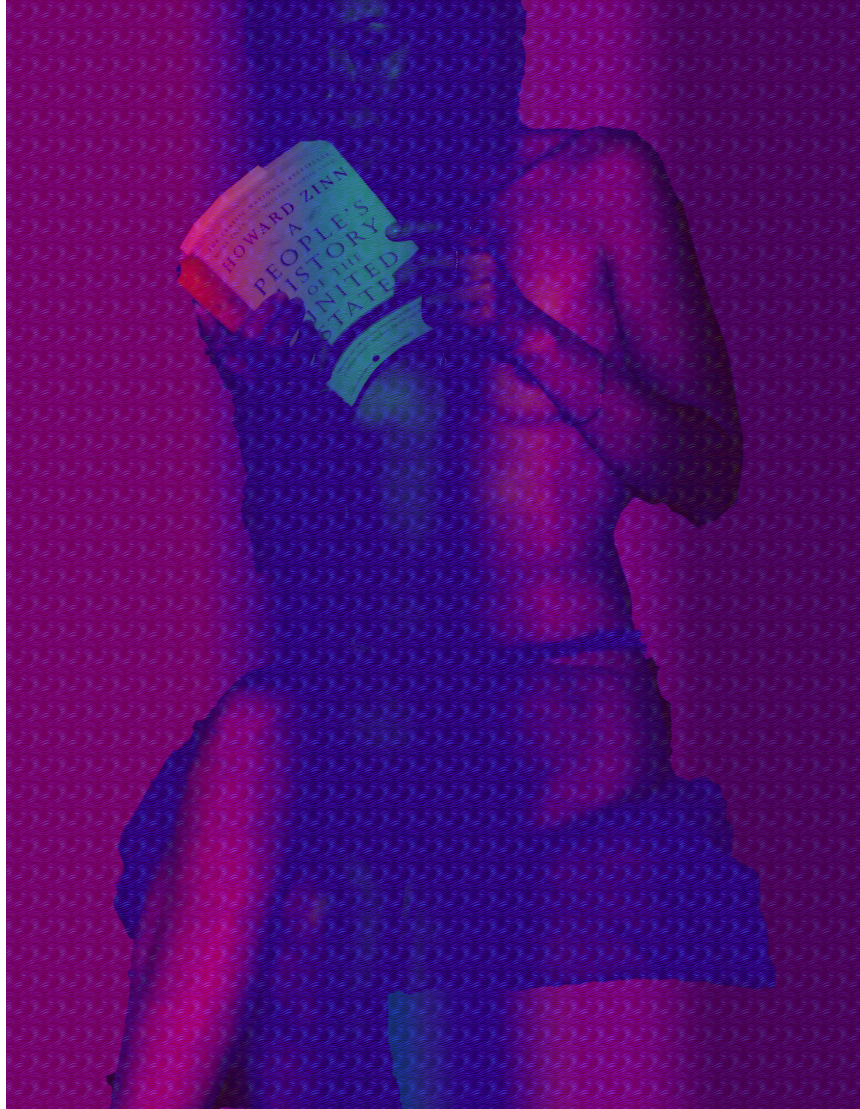
Fiber

20 x 20 x 5 inches

Framed

"The rope like a vein that runs through the body, like a brush that draws on the fabric, like an indigenous textile that expresses a joy inheriting the manual work of my ancestors, that rope is the rope of life, it connects me from my emotions to my memories"

Vega began her art studies in 1997 at the Julio Arraga School of Art, and later at the Neptalí Rincón Academy of Art, both in Maracaibo, Venezuela. She is an artist who became a fashion designer who came to explore the fibers and shadows of every single art piece she creates. Her degree in Experimental Graphics gave the right tools to explore the stamping from paper to canvas. Lisu continues with experimentation workshops in graphic arts and art restoration. Her work has been presented at national and international art exhibitions in Venezuela, Belgium, Russia and the United States. Since 1999, the sustainable art is a reflection of the exploration of all recycled fabrics, ropes, photography and different materials. She creates art installations with the rest of the materials from the ready to wear. Vega feels committed to the environment and nothing is wasted in her fashion and art. Vega uses the rope and the fabrics as a vein that crosses the body, like a brush that is drawn on the canvas, like an indigenous textile that expresses a joy when inheriting the manual work of my ancestors. In 2019, Vega was selected in one of the most prestigious fashion art exhibitions: Innovative Costume of the 21 century: The Next Generation. Bakhrushin Museum. Moscow – Russia.



Claudia Villalta

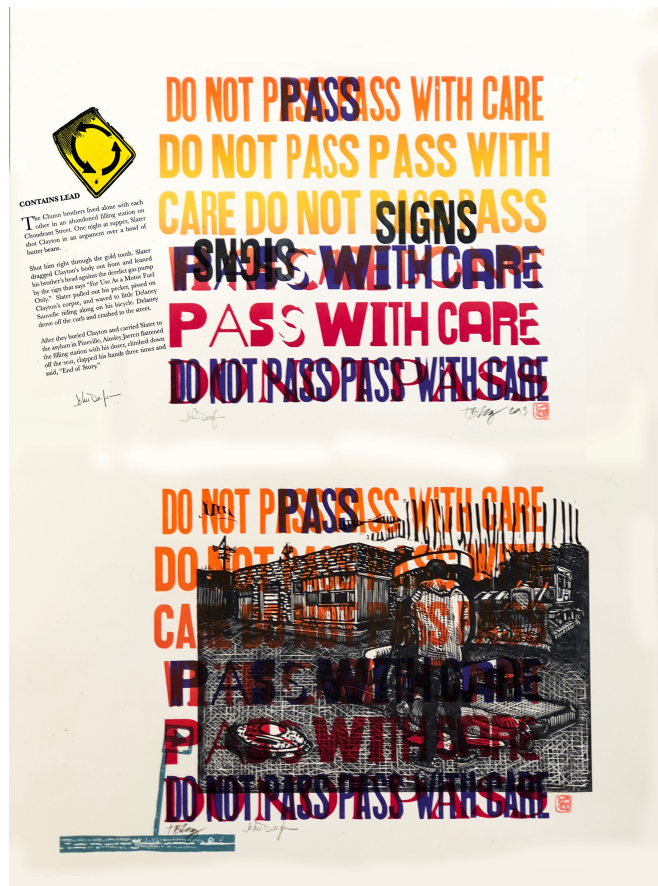
APHOTUS II, 2019

Photography, aluminum print

12 x 18 inches

APHOTUS II is a self-portrait of the artist reading Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States*. (Mount for hanging is on the back)

Claudia Villalta is a visual artist and student of the urban environment. A graduate of Cornell University's College of Architecture, Art & Planning, she has always been fascinated with how these fields merge. Before returning to her art practice, she focused her attention on community development while working with South Florida non-profits. She uses photography to document the built environment and creates digital visual art from multivariate sources of experience. Known for working with digital collage making, she explores how the medium can be used to create a wide range of statements. In addition to photography, she includes painting, and textures from different surfaces to create her work.



Tom Virgin, John Dufresne

Chun Brothers, 2019

Letterpress print, collage

24 x 18 inches

Framed

Letterpress printed work, text by John Dufresne, images and design by Tom Virgin.

Since 1995 Tom Virgin has been building community around classrooms and printing presses. His life has been roughly split between teaching and learning. He is part of a community that brings young people and older experienced people together, to prepare each other to face the “real world.” The young people teach him about other cultures and countries, along with the changes in the way they address each other as human beings. Visual art is the core system of communication skills he passes along, but he also encourages reading, speaking in public, and research as methods of grounding the communication in factual evidence. Most of his work involves prints, book arts, installations and public art. Since 2013, he has run Extra Virgin Press, a small press, printing “old school” for the community that made him: Teachers, students, artists, writers, and community organizations.

John Dufresne has written two story collections and six novels, including *Louisiana Power & Light*, *Love Warps the Mind a Little*, both *New York Times* Notable Books of the Year. He’s also written four books on writing, two plays, *Liv & Di* and *Trailerville* and has co-written two feature films. His stories have twice been named *Best American Mystery Stories*. He is a Guggenheim Fellow and teaches creative writing at FIU in Miami.



Austin Weiner

The Drought Pt I, 2018

Crayon, charcoal and acrylic on paper

20 x 16 inches

Framed

Austyn Weiner (b.1989) is a Los Angeles-based artist born and raised in Miami, Florida. Weiner studied photography and painting at the University of Michigan - School of Art and Design (Ann Arbor, MI), and Parsons School of Photography (New York, NY). The form, line, and palate that define her work engages the transference of the expansive idea of self; mass, movement, sexuality, and form. Austyn's practice communicates through her transverse dependence on photography, painting, the exploration of text and narrative, collage, and drawing. She has had solo and group exhibitions in Miami, New York, Los Angeles, Mexico, London, and Chicago.