

# JOSE BEDIA

Jose Bedia is one of the pivotal figures of the generation that redefined contemporary Cuban art in the 1980s. Born in Havana in 1959 and educated at San Alejandro and the Instituto Superior de Arte, he fused draftsmanship, painting, installation, and field research into a practice grounded in Afro-Cuban, Indigenous American, and transatlantic spiritual systems.

From *Volumen I* and *Magiciens de la Terre* to the Venice and Beijing biennials, Bedia built an international career without loosening the symbolic density of his work. Across paintings, drawings, sculptural installations, and works on paper, he has sustained a language in which cosmology, migration, ritual, and embodied knowledge remain inseparable.

Working from Miami since the early 1990s, Bedia remains central to any serious account of contemporary Cuban art and its broader hemispheric dialogues. His work is held by major public and private collections across the United States, Latin America, and Europe.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Bestiary & Idols, Mendes Wood DM, New York, USA
- 2023 Simetria Natural, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA  
Viaje Circular (Circular Journey), Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico
- 2022 Poner el universo en orden otra vez, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA
- 2019 Trazos de una canción, Galería Artizar, Tenerife, Spain
- 2018 Visual Miami: Jose Bedia Watering Past Ground, Adrienne Arsht Center, Miami, USA
- 2011 Transcultural Pilgrim: Three Decades of Work, Fowler Museum at UCLA, Los Angeles, USA
- 2008 FIRST HAND, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA  
Imágenes Primigenias I & II, Enlace Arte Contemporáneo, Lima, Peru  
IM-PULSE, Galería Ramis Barquet, New York, USA  
Paintings & Drawings (1992-2006), George Adams Gallery, New York, USA
- 2006 El Estado de las Cosas, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA  
Obras Recientes 2002-2005, Museo de Arte Moderno, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- 2005 Al menos una señal, Galería SPATIUM, Caracas, Venezuela  
There, Around the corner, Galería Ramis Barquet, New York, USA  
Fieldwork, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA  
Estremecimientos, DA2 Domus Artium 2002, Salamanca, Spain  
Estremecimientos, Instituto de América / Centro Damián Bayón and Museo Casa de los Tiros, Santa Fe & Granada, Spain
- 2003 Último fruto de temporada, Iturralde Gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
Lo que me dijo la Virgen, Galería Ramis Barquet, New York, USA  
Narraciones Incompletas, Galería Nina Menocal, Mexico City, Mexico  
Tú tienes que estar allí, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA
- 2002 The Transportable Cultural Hero, Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis, USA  
Blanco Espiritual, Museo de Bellas Artes de Granada, Granada, Spain  
Proverbios, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA
- 2001 Condición Visionaria, Iturralde Gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
Back In Africa, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA  
Elson Artist-in-Residence Project, Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, USA
- 2000 Rodeado de Mar, Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, Virginia Beach, USA  
Things We Need, George Adams Gallery, New York, USA
- 1998 Crónicas Americanas, Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico  
The Island, the Hunter and the Prey, Edwin A. Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita, USA
- 1997 Crónicas Americanas, MARCO Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Monterrey, Mexico  
Historia de Animales, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA  
The Island, the Hunter and the Prey, SITE Santa Fe, Santa Fe, USA
- 1996 Mi Esencialismo / My Essentialism, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Ireland; Pori Art Museum, Pori, Finland; George Adams Gallery, New York, USA

- 1995 Cosas Redondas, Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, USA  
Mundele Quiere Saber, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Coral Gables, USA; Terrace Gallery of Orlando City Hall, Orlando, USA  
1995/1994  
De Donde Vengo, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA; Center for the Fine Arts, Miami, USA; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, USA
- 1992 Brevisima relación de la destrucción de las Indias, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Carrillo Gil, Mexico City, Mexico; Frumkin/Adams Gallery, New York, USA
- 1991 José Bedia, Galería Ramis Barquet, Monterrey, Mexico; Ninart Centro de Cultura, Mexico City, Mexico

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Under the beating sun, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, USA  
Surrealism and Us: Caribbean and African Diasporic Artists since 1940, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, USA  
On the other side of the Atlantic: Cuban Art, Mohammed VI Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Rabat, Morocco
- 2023 Chosen Memories: Contemporary Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Gift and Beyond, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 2021 Crossed Kalunga by the Stars and Other Acts of Resistance, Gregg Museum of Art & Design, NC State University, Raleigh, USA  
Visionary Aponte: Art and Black Freedom, Pensacola Museum of Art, Pensacola, USA
- 2020 Witness: Afro Perspectives from the Jorge M. Perez Collection, El Espacio 23, Miami, USA  
PAMM Collection Show, Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, USA
- 2019 Healing Power, Museum Volkenkunde / National Museum of Ethnology, Leiden, Netherlands  
I Paint My Reality: Surrealism in Latin America, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale, USA
- 2017 Adiós Utopia: Dreams and Deceptions in Cuban Art since 1950, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA  
Wild Noise / Ruido Salvaje, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA  
On the Horizon: Contemporary Cuban Art from the Jorge M. Perez Collection, Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, USA  
2015/2014  
Drapetomania: Grupo Antillano and the Art of Afro-Cuba, The 8th Floor, New York, USA; Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, USA; African American Museum, Philadelphia, USA; DuSable Museum of African American History, Chicago, USA
- 2011 Size Matters: Large-Scale and Small-Scale Paintings, Drawings and Sculptures, George Adams Gallery, New York, USA
- 2010 Beijing Biennale, Beijing, China  
Bienal de Pontevedra, Pontevedra, Spain  
Without a Mask, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Flowers, Lies and Revolution: Contemporary Cuban Art, Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, USA  
Cuba Avant-Garde: Contemporary Cuban Art from the Farber Collection, Lowe Art Museum, Coral Gables, USA

- 2009 Revolutionary Acts: Fifty Years of Printmaking in Cuba, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, Canada  
No reservations: Native American History and Culture in Contemporary Art, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, USA
- 2008 NeoHooDoo: Art for a Forgotten Faith, The Menil Collection, Houston, USA  
Cuba Avant-Garde: Contemporary Cuban Art from the Farber Collection, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville, USA
- 2007 Cuba Avant-Garde: Contemporary Cuban Art from the Farber Collection, The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, USA
- 2006 TRANSaction: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, USA  
Unbroken Ties: Dialogues in Cuban Art, Museum of Latin American Art, Long Beach, USA  
Arte de Cuba, Museu Oscar Niemeyer, Curitiba, Brazil
- 2005 Heritage Hispanic, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC, USA  
Contradicciones y convivencias, Centro Cultural BID, Washington, DC, USA
- 2004 Diáspora, Dak'Art Biennale / Museum of African Art, Dakar, Senegal  
Off the Wall: Works from the J.P. Morgan Chase Collection, Bruce Museum, Greenwich, USA  
La condición humana, Forum Barcelona / Museu d'Història de la Ciutat, Barcelona, Spain
- 2003 Visual Poetics: Art & the Word, Miami Art Museum, Miami, USA  
Stranger in the Village, Museum of Modern Art at Guild Hall, East Hampton, USA
- 2002 Crisis Response, RISD Museum, Providence, USA  
Time to Consider: The Arts Respond to 9.11, Deutsche Bank Lobby Gallery, New York, USA  
Realidad y Figuración: la presencia contemporánea latinoamericana, Boca Raton Museum of Art, Boca Raton, USA  
One Thousand Words, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, USA
- 2001 Globe>Miami<Island, Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach, USA  
Face of the Gods, The Art Museum, Florida International University, Miami, USA  
Contemporary Narratives in American Prints, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA
- 1999 Saints, Sinners and Sacrifices: Religious Imagery in Contemporary Latin American Art, George Adams Gallery, New York, USA  
Animal.Anima.Animus, P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York, USA
- 1998 Loin de Cuba, Musée des Tapisseries, Aix-en-Provence, France  
Animal.Anima.Animus, Museum of Modern Art Arnhem, Arnhem, Netherlands; Porin Taidemuseo, Pori, Finland  
Islas, Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo, Seville, Spain
- 1997 Art on Paper, Weatherspoon Art Gallery, Greensboro, USA  
Breaking Barriers, Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, USA  
Islas, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain  
Caribbean Visions: Contemporary Painting and Sculpture, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, USA;  
Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA; New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, USA; Center for the Fine Arts, Miami, USA

- 1996 Cuba Siglo XX, Modernismo y Sincretismo, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas; La Caixa, Palma de Mallorca, Spain  
Defining the Nineties: Consensus-making in New York, Miami and Los Angeles, Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, USA  
New Art on Paper 2, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, USA
- 1995 Cuba: La isla posible, Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
- 1994 InSITE94, San Diego, USA  
Paper Vision V: Biennial Exhibition of Works on Paper by 30 Contemporary Latin American Artists, Housatonic Museum of Art, Bridgeport, USA  
Bienal de São Paulo (installation), São Paulo, Brazil  
Face of the Gods: Art and Altars of Africa and the African Americas, Museum of African Art, New York, USA and tour  
Cartographies, Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Canada; National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
- 1993 Latin American Artists of the 20th Century, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA; Seville, Spain; Paris, France; Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany
- 1992 Migrations: Latin American Art and the Modernist Imagination, RISD Museum, Providence, USA  
Turning the Map: Images of the Americas, Camerawork, England  
Si Colón supiera, Museo de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico
- 1989 Magiciens de la Terre, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France  
Final del Centauro, collateral to the 3rd Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba
- 1987 Art of the Fantastic: Latin American Art, 1929-1987, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, USA; Queens Museum, New York, USA  
Bienal de Cuenca, Cuenca, Ecuador  
Sao Paulo Biennial, Museu de Arte Moderna, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1986 II Bienal de La Habana, Museo Nacional Palacio de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba
- 1984 I Bienal de La Habana, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba
- 1981 Volumen I, Galería de Arte Internacional, Havana, Cuba

## SELECTED BIENNIALS

- 2010 Beijing Biennale, Beijing, China  
Bienal de Pontevedra, Pontevedra, Spain
- 2004 DaK'Art Biennale, Dakar, Senegal
- 2000 Sarasota Biennial, Sarasota, USA
- 1994 Bienal de São Paulo (installation), São Paulo, Brazil  
InSITE94, San Diego, USA
- 1990 XLIV Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy
- 1987 Bienal de Cuenca, Cuenca, Ecuador  
São Paulo Biennial, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1986 II Bienal de La Habana, Havana, Cuba

- 1984 I Bienal de La Habana, Havana, Cuba
- AWARDS
- 2025 Michael Richards Award / Lifetime Achievement Award, Oolite Arts, Miami, USA
- 2010 First Prize in Painting, Beijing International Biennale
- 1993 Guggenheim Fellowship, New York, USA
- 1988 Biennial Critics' Award, National Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC), Havana, Cuba  
Distinction for National Culture, Council of State, Cuba
- 1986 Prize for Installation, II Bienal de La Habana, Havana, Cuba

## SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA
- Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
- Tate Modern, London, UK
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, USA
- Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, USA
- Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, USA
- Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba
- Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
- Daros Collection, Zurich, Switzerland
- MEIAC, Badajoz, Spain
- Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno (CAAM), Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain
- Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, USA

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- José Bedia Works 1978-2006. Turner, 2007.
- José Bedia: Transcultural Pilgrim. Three Decades of Work. Bettelheim and Berlo. Fowler Museum at

### UCLA, 2012.

- José Bedia: Estremecimientos. Omar-Pascual Castillo. Museo Extremeño e Iberoamericano de Arte Contemporáneo / Domus Artium / Instituto de América-Centro Damián Bayón, 2004.
- José Bedia: Works from 1991 Through 1999. Galería Ramis Barquet, 1999.
- José Bedia: Obras de 1990-2004. Curator: Diana Moreinis, 2004.
- José Bedia: Entre dos Mundos. IVAM, Valencia.
- José Bedia: Crónicas Americanas.
- José Bedia: Instalaciones.