

JUAN CARLOS ALOM

Juan Carlos Alom is a Cuban photographer and filmmaker whose practice occupies a central position in the post-1990s renewal of Cuban photography and experimental cinema. Working through black-and-white analogue processes, hand-developed 16mm film, and a language of improvisation, he examines memory, ritual, scarcity, landscape, and the lived realities of Cuba and its diaspora.

Emerging during Cuba's Special Period, Alom transformed material limitation into visual method, using expired film, darkroom intervention, chance, and symbolic staging to create images that move between documentary record and poetic invention. His work often engages Afro-Cuban spirituality, the body, the sea, rural memory, and the unstable relationship between personal history and collective identity.

Recent recognition includes *Entre los Elementos / Between the Elements* at the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU, *Período Especial* at El Apartamento, Madrid, and *Postales del Abismo* at Pan American Art Projects, Miami. His films include *Una Harley recorre la Habana*, *Habana Solo*, *Evidencia*, *Iroko*, *Diario*, and *No Limits*.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** Entre los Elementos / Between the Elements, Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, Florida International University, Miami, USA.
Postales del Abismo, Pan American Art Projects, Miami, USA.
- 2023** Período Especial, El Apartamento, Madrid, Spain.
- 2017** Cuban Analogs, Jorgensen Gallery, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts, University of Connecticut, Storrs, USA.
Projection of Habana Solo and Diario, Ism Ism Ism: Experimental Cinema in Latin America, Los Angeles, USA.
- 2015** Criaturas de isla, El Apartamento, Havana, Cuba.
Nacidos para ser libres, National Event of Photographic Libraries of Mexico, Fototeca de Pachuca, Pachuca, Mexico.
- 2012** Juan Carlos Alom, Photographs (1989 - 2012), Buzz Art Gallery, Wynwood Arts District, Miami, USA.
- 2010** Monte Soy, Galería El Torco de Suances, Santander, Spain.
- 2009** Esperamos en el Monte Claro, Galería Villa Manuela, Havana, Cuba.
Monte Soy, Galería El Torco, Santander, Spain.
Culto a la Vida, Habana Cultura, Madrid, Spain.
- 2006** Juan Carlos Alom, Metrònom Fundació Rafael Tous d'Art Contemporani, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2002** Watching the Music, Teatro Nacional de Cuba, Havana, Cuba.
- 2001** Evidencia, Iturralde Gallery, Los Angeles, USA.
- 2000** Sombras Secretas / Secret Shadows, Throckmorton Fine Art, New York, USA.
- 1998** El Libro Oscuro, Iturralde Gallery, Los Angeles, USA.
- 1996** El Libro Oscuro, Schneider Gallery, Chicago, USA.
The Dark Book, Throckmorton Fine Art, New York, USA.
El libro oscuro, Fundación Ludwig de Cuba / Fototeca de Cuba / Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Havana, Cuba.
- 1995** Traces, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA.
Mística Cubana, OpenSpace, Comune di Milano, Milan, Italy.
El voluble rostro de la realidad, Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Havana, Cuba.
Arenas Movedizas (with Luis Gómez), CENCREM Convento de Santa Clara, Havana, Cuba.
- 1992** La Tama, el Olordumare y la Sagrada Familia, Galería Tina Modotti, Havana, Cuba.
Havana, Galerie Nesle, Paris, France.
- 1991** Laura, Fototeca de Cuba, Havana, Cuba.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** Attitude, Fabian & Claude Walter Galerie, Zurich, Switzerland.
- 2020** Allied with Power: African and African Diaspora Art from the Jorge M. Pérez Collection, Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, USA.
- 2018** Kindred Spirits: Ten Artists by the Hudson, Coral Gables Museum, Miami, USA.
16 mm. Motion Photography, El Apartamento, Havana, Cuba.
- 2017** On the Horizon: Contemporary Cuban Art from the Jorge M. Pérez Collection, Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, USA.
The Cuban Matrix, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, California, USA.
Double Play: Contemporary Cuban Photography, Foto Museo Cuatro Caminos, Mexico City, Mexico.
Without Masks: Contemporary Afro-Cuban Art, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba.
Mutations, Estudio Figueroa-Vives, Havana, Cuba.
- 2016** CUBA: Tatuare la storia, PAC Padiglione d'Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy.
The Banality of the Sea: Contemporary Cuban Photography, Museo de Arte Moderno de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.
Under the Cuban Sun, Spencer Throckmorton Gallery, New York, USA.
ARTBO International Art Fair, Corferias Fairgrounds, Bogotá, Colombia.
54.67 linear meters, El Apartamento, Havana, Cuba.
- 2015** Cuba - Fiction & Fantasy, Daros Latinamerica, Casa Daros, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
Colimadores. A look at Cuba: Exhibition of Modern and Contemporary Cuban Photography, Michael Horbach Foundation, Cologne, Germany.
Iconocracy - Contemporary Cuban Photography, Artium Basque Center-Museum of Contemporary Art, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain.
The Light in Cuban Eyes, Robert Mann Gallery, New York and San Francisco, USA.
The Spaces Between: Contemporary Art from Havana, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.
- 2014** Daros Latinamerica Collection, Fondation Beyeler, Riehen, Switzerland.
Without Masks: Contemporary Afro-Cuban Art, Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.
Signs: Art, Industry and Viceversa, Factoría Habana, Havana, Cuba.
- 2013** Occupying, Building, Thinking: Poetic and Discursive Perspectives on Contemporary Cuban Video Art (1990 - 2010), USF Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa, USA.
Waiting for the Idols to Fall, The 8th Floor, New York, USA.
- 2012** The Virgin of La Caridad del Cobre, National Center for the Arts, Mexico City, Mexico.
Cine a Contracorriente, Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.
Recent Acquisitions, Donald and Shelley Rubin Foundation, New York, USA.
- 2011** Tabakalera Fábrica de Cultura Visual, Daros Latinamerica, San Sebastián, Spain.
Cuban Visions, Metropolitan Pavilion, New York, USA.
Last Scenes, 23 y 12 Art Center, Havana, Cuba.

- 2010** Contemporary Polarity: Recent Cuban Artwork, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, USA.
Contemporary Afro-Cuban Art: Without Masks, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Serendipity Portugal Art Biennial 10, Lisbon, Portugal.
Digital Ocean: Technology in Art, Provincial Center of Plastic Arts / Rafael Botín Foundation, Córdoba, Spain.
- 2009** For You / Para Usted: The Daros Latinamerica Tapes and Video Installations, Daros Museum, Zürich, Switzerland.
On the Road, Fototeca de Cuba, Havana, Cuba.
The Boston Printmakers Presents: Making Connections: Contemporary Cuban Printmakers, Laconia Gallery, Chicago, USA.
Don't Stare at the Sun / Nie patrz prosto w słońce, CoCA Centre of Contemporary Art, Torun, Poland.
- 2008** Terapia de grupo (Arte Cubano actual), Galería Fernando Pradilla, Madrid, Spain.
Not Neutral, Tabakalera International Center for Contemporary Culture, San Sebastián, Spain.
- 2007** Puntos de Vista: Zeitgenössische Kunst aus der Daros-Latinamerica Collection, Kunstmuseum Bochum, Bochum, Germany.
The Other Side of the Soul, Círculo de Bellas Artes de Tenerife, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain.
- 2006** Three Cuban Photographers, IX Havana Biennial, Fototeca de Cuba, Havana, Cuba.
- 2005** My Body, My Country: Cuban Art Today, Thomas H. Bayly Building, Charlottesville, USA.
Open Maps: Latin American Photography 1991 - 2002, Amos Anderson Art Museum, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2004** Free Roaming: A Compilation of Contemporary Artists, El Museo del Barrio, New York, USA.
Scope: Contemporary Cuban Images, Toronto Film Festival, Toronto, Canada.
100 Years of Latin American Photography, Palau de la Virreina, Barcelona, Spain; Fundación Telefónica, Madrid, Spain.
The Daros-Latinamerica Tapes, Huis Marseille Museum voor Fotografie, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
Defining Moments, Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, USA.
Pabellón Cuba, VIII Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba.
- 2003** Mapas Oberts: Latin American Photography 1991 - 2002, Palau de la Virreina, Barcelona, Spain.
Cara a Cara, Culturgest, Lisbon, Portugal.
Digging Alone: Five Cuban Photographers, Gallery 106, Minnesota, USA.
Parallax Effect, Spanish Cultural Center, Miami, USA.
- 2002** Migrations of the Sea Caribbean, ARCO, Madrid, Spain.
17eme Rencontres video art plastique, Wharf Centre d'Art Contemporain de Basse-Normandie, France.
Photographie à la carte!, Kunsthhaus CentrePasquArt, Biel/Bienne, Switzerland.

- 2001** Shifting Tides: Cuban Photography after the Revolution, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, USA.
From the Negative, North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks, USA.
Viva Cuba, ALVA Gallery, New London, England.
- 2000** From the Negative: Conceptual Photography from Cuba, Parts Photographic Arts, Minneapolis, USA.
Vistas Nuevas: Recent Video from Cuba, The Kitchen, New York, USA.
Latin American Artist-Photographers from the Lehigh University Art Galleries Collection, El Museo del Barrio, New York, USA.
Le Siècle du Corps: Photographies 1900 - 2000, Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- 1999** Queloides, Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Havana, Cuba.
New Voices / New Visions: 23 Contemporary Artists, University Art Gallery, UCSD, San Diego, USA.
La Huella Múltiple, Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales / CENCREM, Havana, Cuba.
Lo real infatigable, Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Havana, Cuba.
- 1998** Cuba: 100 años de fotografía, Casa de América, Madrid, Spain.
II Salón de Arte Cubano Contemporáneo, Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales / Fototeca de Cuba / Centro Wifredo Lam / CENCREM, Havana, Cuba.
- 1997** Utopian Territories: New Art from Cuba, Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery and Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada; Fundación Ludwig de Cuba, Havana, Cuba.
VI Havana Biennial, Centro Wifredo Lam, Havana, Cuba.
Feria Internacional de Arte Contemporáneo ARCO'97, Madrid, Spain.
El ocultamiento de las almas, Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Havana, Cuba.
- 1995** Natural Myth: A Bestiary, Throckmorton Fine Art, New York, USA.
Traces: The Body in Contemporary Photography, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA.
The Photography Show 95 (AIPAD), The New York Hilton, New York, USA.
Mística Cubana: Arte dell'ultima generazione, OpenSpace, Milan, Italy.
Fotografía Cubana en los Noventa, Centro Cultural de Belém, Lisbon, Portugal.
- 1994** The New Generation: Contemporary Photography from Cuba, FotoFest '94, Menil Collection, Houston, USA.
La nueva generación: Fotografía contemporánea de Cuba, Fototeca de Cuba, Havana, Cuba.
Antología de la Fotografía Cubana, Galería de Arte, Galiano y Concordia, Havana, Cuba.
45 Años de Fotografía Cubana, Galeria de Artes João do Monte, Valinhos; Biblioteca da FURB, Blumenau; Auditório Alceu Amoroso Lima, São Paulo, Brazil.
- 1993** 150 Años de Fotografía Cubana, Centro Cultural Jaime Torres Bodet, Mexico City, Mexico.
Dieci Fotografi Cubani: Un'immagine Contemporanea, Oratorio di San Ambrogio, Prato, Italy.
Concurso 13 de Marzo, Galería L, Havana, Cuba.

- 1992** Kubanische Fotografie 1959 - 1992, Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst, Berlin, Germany.
Latinoamérica 92, Odense, Copenhagen and Aarhus, Denmark.
Regards croisés sur La Havane, Galerie de Nesle, Paris, France.
Fotografía Cubana contemporánea en 150 imágenes, Centro Internacional de Prensa, Havana, Cuba.
- 1991** IV Salón de Artes Plásticas Aristides Fernández, Galería de Arte Universal, Güines, Havana, Cuba.
Mutaciones, Galería Tina Modotti, Havana, Cuba.
Cuan lejos el hombre del hombre, Galería Casa Blanca, Instituto Superior Politécnico José Antonio Echevarría, Havana, Cuba.
- 1990** Fotografía Manipulada, Fototeca de Cuba, III Bienal de La Habana, Havana, Cuba.

SELECTED FILMS AND SCREENINGS

- 2024 Natural Pools, 16mm film, presented in Juan Carlos Alom: Entre los Elementos / Between the Elements, Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU, Miami, USA.
- 2018 Retrospective screening of Alom's 16mm films, Ism Ism Ism: Experimental Cinema in Latin America, Los Angeles, USA.
- 2013 No Limits, film, with Ismael de Diego and Armando Suárez Cobián.
- 2009 Diario, film; screenings included Salle Zero, Alianza Francesa, Havana, Cuba.
- 2004 Iroko, 16mm black-and-white film; Pabellón Cuba, 35mm black-and-white film, presented in the context of the 8th Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba.
- 2001 Evidencia, film.
- 2000 Habana Solo, 16mm black-and-white film.
- 1998 Una Harley recorre la Habana, film.

AWARDS

- 2000** Recognized by Time magazine, New York, as one of the 100 Latin American photographers of the millennium.
- 1993** Prize, Concurso 13 de Marzo, Galería L, Havana, Cuba.
- 1992** Prize in Color Photography, Editora Abril, Havana, Cuba.
- 1991** Prize in Photography, Editora Abril, Havana, Cuba.
- 1990** Prize, III Salón de Artes Plásticas Aristides Fernández, Galería de Arte Universal, Güines, Havana, Cuba.

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- Tate Modern, London, United Kingdom.
- Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami, USA.
- National Museum of Fine Arts, Havana, Cuba.
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, USA.
- Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany.
- Fototeca Nacional / National Photo Library, Pachuca, Mexico.
- Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, Florida International University, Miami, USA.
- Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, USA.
- IVAM - Institut Valencià d'Art Modern, Valencia, Spain.
- Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, USA.
- Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA.
- The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA.
- The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA.
- Southeast Museum of Photography, Daytona Beach, Florida, USA.
- Fototeca de Cuba, Havana, Cuba.
- Daros Latinamerica Collection, Zürich, Switzerland.
- Lehigh University Art Galleries, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, USA.
- Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA.
- Archivio Fotografico Toscano, Italy.
- IF, Milan, Italy.
- Teatro Nacional de Cuba, Havana, Cuba.