

ANA MENDIETA

Ana Mendieta was a Cuban-born, American artist whose work joined performance, sculpture, photography, film, drawing, and site-specific installation into a radical language of body and earth. She is best known for her earth/body works and her now iconic Silueta Series, in which she used her own body, and later the absence of the body, in the landscape as a way of connecting with nature, ritual, displacement, and the universe.

Across a brief but extraordinary career, Mendieta created a body of work that remains central to histories of feminist art, land art, performance, photography, and Latin American and Cuban diasporic art. Her practice used organic materials such as earth, water, fire, blood, grass, stone, and flowers, transforming ephemeral actions into photographs, films, objects, and traces that continue to define her legacy.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Ana Mendieta: Back to the Source. Marian Goodman Gallery, New York, USA.
- 2024 Ana Mendieta: Search for Origin. MUSAC, León, Spain; Musée des beaux-arts de La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland.
- Ana Mendieta: Silueta Sangrienta. Mount Holyoke College Art Museum, South Hadley, USA.
- Fundamento de Palo Monte: Ana Mendieta. Hilliard Art Museum, University of Louisiana, Lafayette, USA.
- 2023 Ana Mendieta: Silhueta em Fogo. SESC Pompéia, São Paulo, Brazil.
- Ana Mendieta: Search for Origin. MO.CO., Montpellier, France.
- 2022 Universal Energy. Ana Mendieta Gallery, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA.
- Ana Mendieta: Elemental. Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, USA.
- 2020 Ana Mendieta: Suspended Fire. Denver Museum of Art, Denver, USA.
- Ana Mendieta: Ochún. Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, USA.
- Ana Mendieta: Blood Inside Outside. Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, USA.
- 2019 La tierra habla (The Earth Speaks). Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, USA.
- Connecting to the Earth: Ana Mendieta. Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia.
- Earthbound. Middelheim Museum, Antwerp, Belgium.
- 2018 Ana Mendieta: Cuba & Miami 1981-83. Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris, France.
- Covered in Time and History: The Films of Ana Mendieta. Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany; Jeu de Paume, Paris, France.
- 2017 Siluetas de Alma (Soul Silhouettes), 6th Thessaloniki Biennale. State Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece.
- Covered in Time and History: The Films of Ana Mendieta. Bildmuseet, Umeå, Sweden.
- Metamorphosis. Alison Jacques Gallery, London, England.
- 2016 Ana Mendieta: Experimental and Interactive Films. Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, USA.
- Covered in Time and History: The Films of Ana Mendieta. Katherine E. Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale; Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, USA.
- 2015 Ana Mendieta: Alma, Silueta en Fuego. St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, USA.
- 2014 Ana Mendieta. The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel.
- 2013 Ana Mendieta: Traces. Hayward Gallery, Southbank Centre, London, United Kingdom; Museum der Moderne, Salzburg, Austria; Galerie Rudolfinum, Prague, Czech Republic.
- Ana Mendieta: She Got Love. Castello di Rivoli, Turin, Italy.
- 2011 Ana Mendieta. Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA.
- Ana Mendieta: Blood and Fire. Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris, France.

- 2010 Ana Mendieta: Documentation and Artwork, 1972-1985. Galerie Lelong & Co., New York, USA.
- 2004 Ana Mendieta: Earth Body, Sculpture and Performance 1972-1985. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; Des Moines Art Center; Miami Art Museum, USA.
- 2002 Ana Mendieta (1948-1985) - Body Tracks. Neues Kunstmuseum Luzern, Lucerne, Switzerland; Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, The Netherlands.
- 1998 Ana Mendieta: Siluetas. Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, USA.
- 1996 Ana Mendieta. Centro Galego de Arte Contemporánea, Santiago de Compostela, Spain; Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Germany; Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona, Spain; Museo Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 1991 Ana Mendieta: The Silueta Series. Galerie Lelong & Co., New York; University of Massachusetts Dartmouth; Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus; University Art Gallery, San Diego State University; Freedman Gallery, Albright College, USA.
- 1987 Ana Mendieta: A Retrospective. New Museum, New York, USA.
- 1983 Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba.
- 1982 Ana Mendieta: Outdoor Sculpture. Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami, Miami, USA.
- 1981 Esculturas Rupestres (Rupestrian Sculptures). A.I.R. Gallery, New York, USA.
- 1979 Silueta Series. A.I.R. Gallery, New York, USA.
- 1977 Silueta Series. Corroboree: Gallery of New Concepts, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Rituals for Remembering: María Magdalena Campos-Pons and Ana Mendieta. Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Boston, USA.
Shifting Landscapes. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA.
Corps et âmes. Bourse de Commerce - Pinault Collection, Paris, France.
- 2024 Vital Signs: Artists and the Body. Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA.
Afterlives: Contemporary Art in the Byzantine Crypt. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA.
The 70s Lens: Reimagining Documentary Photography. National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., USA.
Trade Windings: De-Lineating the American Tropics. Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, USA.
What it Becomes. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA.
- 2023 Groundswell: Women of Land Art. Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, USA.
RE/SISTERS: A Lens on Gender and Ecology. Barbican Art Gallery, London, England; FOMU, Antwerp, Belgium.
Our Ecology: Toward a Planetary Living. Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan.

- Revered and Feared: Feminine Power in Art and Belief. CaixaForum, Madrid; Barcelona; Sevilla; Zaragoza; Valencia, Spain.
- 2022 Put it this way: (Re)visions of the Hirshhorn Collection. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C., USA.
A Field Guide to Photography and Media. Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA.
Radical Conventions. Lowe Art Museum, Miami, USA.
Juan Francisco Elso: Por América. El Museo del Barrio, New York; Phoenix Art Museum; Museo Tamayo, Mexico City.
- 2021 Body on the Line. Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA.
- 2018 Ana Mendieta: Pain of Cuba / Body I Am. Tate Modern, London, England.
- 2017 Radical Women: Latin American Art, 1960-1985. Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Brooklyn Museum, New York; Pinacoteca de São Paulo, Brazil.
- 2016 The Matter of Photography in the Americas. Cantor Arts Center, Stanford University, Stanford, USA.
- 2015 America Is Hard to See. Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA.
Trio: Nalini Malani - Ana Mendieta - Nancy Spero. Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris, France.
- 2014 Cuba - Ficción y fantasía. Daros Latinamerica, Casa Daros, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- 2013 Latin American Artists of the 20th Century. Museum of Modern Art, New York; Kunsthalle Köln; Estación Plaza de Armas, Sevilla; Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris.
- 2012 Caribbean: Crossroads of the World. El Museo del Barrio, Queens Museum, and Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA.
- 2010 The Original Copy: Photography of Sculpture, 1839 to Today. Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA.
- 2009 Dress Codes: The Third ICP Triennial of Photography and Video. International Center of Photography, New York, USA.
- 2007 WACK! Art and the Feminist Revolution. Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.; P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York; Vancouver Art Gallery, Canada.
- 2006 Into Me / Out of Me. P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York; Kunst-Werke Berlin; MACRO Future, Rome.
- 2004 Arte de Cuba. Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany.
- 2001 Virgin Territory: Women, Gender, and History in Contemporary Brazilian Art. National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C., USA.
- 1998 Out of Actions: Between Performance and the Object, 1949-1979. Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; MAK, Vienna; MACBA, Barcelona; Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo.
- 1993 Latin American Artists of the 20th Century. Museum of Modern Art, New York; Kunsthalle Köln; Paris; Sevilla, Spain.

- 1992 Ante América. Biblioteca Luis Ángel Arango, Bogotá; Museo Alejandro Otero, Caracas; Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence; Queens Museum of Art, New York; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; Museo de Arte y Diseño Contemporáneo, San José.
- 1980 Dialectics of Isolation: An Exhibition of Third World Women Artists of the United States. A.I.R. Gallery, New York, USA.

AWARDS

- 2009 Visual Arts Lifetime Achievement Award. Cintas Foundation, New York, USA.
- 1984 Award in the Visual Arts. Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA), Winston-Salem, USA.
- 1983 Rome Prize. American Academy in Rome, Rome, Italy.
- 1982 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship; New York State Council on the Arts Grant.
- 1980 John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship; National Endowment for the Arts Grant.
- 1979 Creative Arts Program Services Grant, New York Foundation for the Arts.
- 1977 National Endowment for the Arts Grant.

SELECTED MONOGRAPHS AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 Ana Mendieta. Aux commencements (Search for Origin). This Side Up; MO.CO.; MUSAC; Musée des beaux-arts La Chaux-de-Fonds.
- 2019 Ana Mendieta: La Tierra Habla (The Earth Speaks). New York: Galerie Lelong & Co.
- 2015 Covered in Time and History: The Films of Ana Mendieta. Minneapolis: Katherine E. Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota; University of California Press.
- 2013 Ana Mendieta: Traces. London: Hayward Publishing.
- 2013 Ana Mendieta: She Got Love. Milan: Skira.
- 2011 Ana Mendieta: Blood and Fire. Paris: Galerie Lelong & Co.
- 2008 Unseen Mendieta. Munich, Berlin, London, New York: Prestel.
- 2004 Ana Mendieta: Earth Body. Ostfildern-Ruit: Hatje Cantz.
- 1996 Ana Mendieta. Santiago de Compostela: Centro Galego de Arte Contemporánea.
- 1992 Ana Mendieta: A Book of Works. Miami: Grassfield Press.
- 1992 Ana Mendieta: The Silueta Series, 1973-1980. New York: Galerie Lelong & Co.
- 1987 Ana Mendieta: A Retrospective. New York: The New Museum of Contemporary Art.

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA.
- Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA.
- Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA.
- Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA.

- The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA.
- Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France.
- Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain.
- Tate, London, England.
- Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, USA.
- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C., USA.
- National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., USA.
- National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C., USA.
- Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, USA.
- Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, USA.
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA.
- Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, USA.
- M+ Museum, Hong Kong.
- Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires (MALBA), Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Glenstone Museum, Potomac, USA.
- Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark.
- Denver Art Museum, Denver, USA.
- Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, USA.
- Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, USA.
- Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA.
- Florida International University, Miami, USA.
- Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba.