

DIANA FONSECA

Diana Fonseca is a Cuban artist devoted to the patient, almost obsessive dismantling of the simple objects and everyday events that surround her. Working across painting, sculpture, video, and installation, she strips commonplace things of their assigned functions and reassembles them into poetic metaphors that speak of time, memory, guilt, displacement, and the collective longings of contemporary Cuban life. In her signature Degradación series, fragments of paint recovered from the facades of Havana are layered into abstract compositions in which the literal decay of the material becomes a meditation on the endurance and deterioration of the city itself.

Since leaving Havana for Madrid, questions of distance, nostalgia, and adaptation have moved to the center of her practice. Her work has appeared in the Havana Biennial and in exhibitions at the Bronx Museum of the Arts, Cranbrook Art Museum, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, La Térmica, Sean Kelly Gallery, the Gilbert Brownstone Foundation, Max Estrella, and El Apartamento.

Born in Havana, Cuba, 1978.

Education: Academia de Bellas Artes de San Alejandro, Havana, 2000; Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA), Havana, 2005.

Lives and works in Madrid.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Entelequia. La Térmica, Centro de Cultura Contemporánea, Málaga, Spain.
- 2023 Mi mundo como objeto. Max Estrella, Madrid, Spain.
- 2019 Cara a cara. Diana Fonseca & Jacques Villeglé. Gilbert Brownstone Foundation, Paris, France.
- 2018 Viaje a la semilla. Diana Fonseca & Aimée García. Factoría Habana, Havana, Cuba.
Two-person project with Reynier Leyva Novo, LISTE Art Fair Basel, with El Apartamento, Basel, Switzerland.
- 2017 Solo presentation at The Armory Show, with El Apartamento, New York, USA.
- 2016 Extraña verdad. El Apartamento, Havana, Cuba.
Diana Fonseca. Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA.
- 2015 La razón de lo irreal. Galería Villa Manuela, Havana, Cuba.
- 2012 Made in Mind. Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Havana, Cuba.
- 2005 Jardín. Graduation exhibition, Instituto Superior de Arte / Ludwig Foundation of Cuba, Havana, Cuba.
- 2000 A contraluz. Graduation exhibition, Academia de Bellas Artes de San Alejandro, Havana, Cuba.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024** Kaléidoscopes. Cuba: Regards Contemporains. Galleria Continua, Les Moulins, France.
- 2023** Women in Tuscany. Art of the Treasure Hunt, Florence, Italy.
- 2022** In the Mind's Eye: Landscapes of Cuba. Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, Florida International University, Miami, USA.
You Know Who You Are: Recent Acquisitions of Cuban Art from the Jorge M. Pérez Collection. El Espacio 23, Miami, USA.
- 2021** La Promenade. Galerie Vallois, Paris, France.
- 2019** Proust's Madeleine: Everyday Anthropocentrism. Max Estrella, Madrid, Spain.
Landlord Colors: On Art, Economy, and Materiality. Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, USA.
Prophecies for the Second Machine Age. Kadist Video Library, San Francisco, USA.
Ural Industrial Biennial of Contemporary Art, Russia.
HB. Gran Teatro de La Habana Alicia Alonso, collateral exhibition to the XIII Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba.
Illness Has a Colour. Estudio 50, collateral exhibition to the XIII Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba.
El circuito del arte cubano. El Apartamento, collateral exhibition to the XIII Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba.
- 2018** Edifice, Complex, Visionary, Structure. Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA.
Buena Vista. Contemporary Art in Cuba. Fondation Clément, Martinique.
- 2017** Atalaya. El Apartamento / Taller Gorriá, Havana, Cuba.
The Cuban Matrix. Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, USA.
Wild Noise. Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA.
- 2016** Un.bound Narrative. Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, USA.
Fireflies in the Night. Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, Athens, Greece.
La madre de todas las artes. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo Wifredo Lam, Havana, Cuba.
Transhumance, Beyond Cuban Horizons. CAB Art Center, Brussels, Belgium.
- 2015** By the Book. Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA.
Proyecto Alto Riesgo. Parque John Lennon, collateral exhibition to the XII Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba.
Sin oficios ni beneficios. Galería La Moderna, collateral exhibition to the XII Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba.
- 2014** Dilated Biography: Contemporary Cuban Narratives. School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA.
- 2012** Herejes del vacío. Galería Habana, Havana, Cuba.
- 2011** Inside Confluences: Contemporary Cuban Art. National Hispanic Cultural Center, New Mexico, USA.
Spray. Kubanische Kunst. Hochhaus Hansa, Dortmund, Germany.

- 2010** Parables of the Water. Hanson Street Project Space, Wasps Artists' Studios, Glasgow, Scotland.
- 2008** V Salón de Arte Cubano Contemporáneo. Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Havana, Cuba.
States of Exchange: Artists from Cuba. Iniva, London, England.
Globalizado. Festival Internacional de la Cultura de Boyacá, Tunja, Colombia.
Endurance. VIVID, Birmingham, England.
- 2006** Enjoy, 3rd edition. Collateral exhibition to the IX Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba.
Hjertebank. National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway.
Salón de Arte Digital. Centro Pablo de la Torriente Brau, Havana, Cuba.
Trans it. Centro Provincial de Artes Plásticas y Diseño Luz y Oficios, Havana, Cuba.
- 2005** European Media Art Festival, Osnabrück, Germany.
- 2002** III Salón de Arte Cubano Contemporáneo, collateral exhibition, Instituto Superior de Arte, Havana, Cuba.

AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

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| 2019 | Gilbert Brownstone Foundation Residency, Paris, France. |
| 2017 | JustMad Residency, Asturias, Spain. |
| 2016 | CAST Research Residency, Melbourne, Australia. |
| 2015 | EFG Bank & ArtNexus Acquisition Award, Bogotá, Colombia. |
| 2008 | Batiscafo Residency, Triangle Arts Trust / Hivos Foundation, Havana, Cuba. |
| 2004 | First Prize, Video Art, Festival Imago, Instituto Superior de Arte, Havana, Cuba. |

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami, USA.
- Jorge M. Pérez Collection, Miami, USA.
- Margulies Collection, Miami, USA.
- Ella Cisneros Collection, Miami, USA.
- Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA.
- Kadist Foundation, San Francisco, USA.
- Davis Museum at Wellesley College, Wellesley, USA.
- The Francis H. Williams Collection, Wellesley, USA.
- Duncan Collection, Nebraska, USA.
- Museum of Contemporary Art of North Carolina, USA.
- Fundación María Cristina Masaveu Peterson, Madrid, Spain.
- Colección Isabel y Agustín Coppel (CIAC), Mexico City, Mexico.
- Fondation Jean Boghossian, Brussels, Belgium.
- CAB Art Center, Brussels, Belgium.
- Galila Barzilai Collection, Brussels, Belgium.
- Rolf Hoffmann Collection, Oslo, Norway.
- EFG Bank & ArtNexus Collection, Bogotá, Colombia.
- Gilbert Brownstone Foundation, Paris, France.