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Thursday November 30, 2017



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Midsummer Round-Up: 6 Shows to Catch Now

What to see in Leipzig, Miami, Los Angeles, and New York

Published: July 27, 2017 [f](http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?s=100&p[url]=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cubanartnews.org%2Fnews%2Fmidsummer-round-up-6-shows-to-catch-now%2F6255&p[title]=Midsummer+Round-Up%3A+6+Shows+to+Catch+Now&p[summary]=%0A%09Who+says+summer+and+art+don%26rsquo%3Bt+mix%3F+Heading+into+August%2C+we+think+it%26rsquo%3Bs+a+perfect+time+to+recap+6+of+the+season%26rsquo%3Bs+most+interesting%26mdas+throughs.&p[images][0]=http://www.cubanartnews.org/artwork/YLA8.jpeg) ([http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?s=100&p\[url\]=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cubanartnews.org%2Fnews%2Fmidsummer-round-up-6-shows-to-catch-now%2F6255&p\[title\]=Midsummer+Round-Up%3A+6+Shows+to+Catch+Now&p\[summary\]=%0A%09Who+says+summer+and+art+don%26rsquo%3Bt+mix%3F+Heading+into+August%2C+we+think+it%26rsquo%3Bs+a+perfect+time+to+recap+6+of+the+season%26rsquo%3Bs+most+interesting%26mdas+throughs.&p\[images\]\[0\]=http://www.cubanartnews.org/artwork/YLA8.jpeg](http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?s=100&p[url]=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cubanartnews.org%2Fnews%2Fmidsummer-round-up-6-shows-to-catch-now%2F6255&p[title]=Midsummer+Round-Up%3A+6+Shows+to+Catch+Now&p[summary]=%0A%09Who+says+summer+and+art+don%26rsquo%3Bt+mix%3F+Heading+into+August%2C+we+think+it%26rsquo%3Bs+a+perfect+time+to+recap+6+of+the+season%26rsquo%3Bs+most+interesting%26mdas+throughs.&p[images][0]=http://www.cubanartnews.org/artwork/YLA8.jpeg)) [t](https://twitter.com/share?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cubanartnews.org%2Fnews%2Fmidsummer-round-up-6-shows-to-catch-now%2F6255&via=CubanArtNews&text=%0A%09Who+says+summer+and+art+don%26rsquo%3Bt+mix%3F+Heading+into+August%2C+we+think+it%26rsquo%3Bs+a+perfect+time+to+recap+6+of+the+season%26rsquo%3Bs+most+interesting%26mdash%3Ban+throughs.) (<https://twitter.com/share?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cubanartnews.org%2Fnews%2Fmidsummer-round-up-6-shows-to-catch-now%2F6255&via=CubanArtNews&text=%0A%09Who+says+summer+and+art+don%26rsquo%3Bt+mix%3F+Heading+into+August%2C+we+think+it%26rsquo%3Bs+a+perfect+time+to+recap+6+of+the+season%26rsquo%3Bs+most+interesting%26mdash%3Ban+throughs.>)



At El Museo del Barrio: Belkis Ayón, *La consagración III*, 1991
Courtesy Yadira Leyva Ayón

Who says summer and art don't mix? Heading into August, we think it's a perfect time to recap some of the season's most interesting exhibitions, with links to our recent coverage and photo walk-throughs.

Some shows will be around for a while, but others will be gone by September. Here are our picks for hot-weather viewing.

Nkame: A Retrospective of Cuban Printmaker Belkis Ayón. On view at El Museo del Barrio in New York through November 5, *Nkame* is the artist's first US museum retrospective.

The *Cuban Art News* photo walk-through includes excerpts from the exhibition essay by curator Cristina Vives.

"In the more than ten years of our friendship and professional collaboration, Belkis and I spoke about nearly everything," Vives wrote, "but it was not until late 1997, when I curated her last solo exhibition in the United States, *Desasosiego/Restlessness*, that we discussed her own religious beliefs.



From left, Belkis Ayón, *Nloro (Weeping)*, 1991, and *Sin título (Figura blanca arrojada en el centro)* (Untitled: Figure in white, kneeling in center), 1995
Courtesy Yadira Leyva Ayón

"She declared herself a complete atheist, as I had surmised. Her aim had always been to use the Abakuá myth as a means toward an end and not to embrace it or to assume the role of interpreter of an ancestral myth."

See the photo walk-through, with more from Cristina Vives, [here](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/nkame-in-new-york-belkis-ayon-at-el-museo-del-barrio/6162) (<http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/nkame-in-new-york-belkis-ayon-at-el-museo-del-barrio/6162>).



In Leipzig: Adrian Fernández, *Standard No. IV*, 2016, from the Requiem series
Photo: Adrian Fernández

Overseas: Cuba and the Bahamas. Contemporary Art from the Caribbean. Co-curated by Antonio Eligio (Tonel), this show, presented at Halle 14 in Leipzig, Germany, closes soon—next Sunday, August 6.

"The idea is that although Cuba and the Bahamas are nations with different histories and cultural traditions, they are both placed in the Caribbean, an area that still today, for many Europeans, resonates as a wholeness of sun, beaches, and exoticism," Tonel wrote in his *Cuban Art News* article.

"The show tries to address this stereotypical vision from a critical standpoint, while bringing forward a historical and contemporary complexity that is conveyed in the many artworks on display, from both nations."

See Tone's article and photo walk-through [here \(http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/tonel-in-germany-curating-overseas/6134\)](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/tonel-in-germany-curating-overseas/6134).



At Pan American: Sandra Ramos, *Conversación con Proteus*, 2012
Courtesy Pan American Art Projects

Hacerse el Bobo / Playing the Fool. At Pan American Art Projects in Miami, this exhibition explores the tradition of comic politics in Cuba, connecting it to the work of three contemporary artists. The show has been held over, and is now scheduled to close August 30.

Curated by Irina Leyva-Pérez and Alejandro Machado, the show takes *El Bobo*, the character created in 1926 by Eduardo Abela, as its starting point, figuratively and literally. "The show opens with two Abela works (an ink and a watercolor) as a prelude to work by three contemporary Cuban artists—Lázaro Saavedra, José Ángel Toirac, and Sandra Ramos—whose art has been nurtured and inspired by Abela's satirical creation," Janet Batet wrote.

Read the full article [here \(http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/playing-the-fool-on-the-tradition-of-comic-politics-in-cuba/6210\)](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/playing-the-fool-on-the-tradition-of-comic-politics-in-cuba/6210).

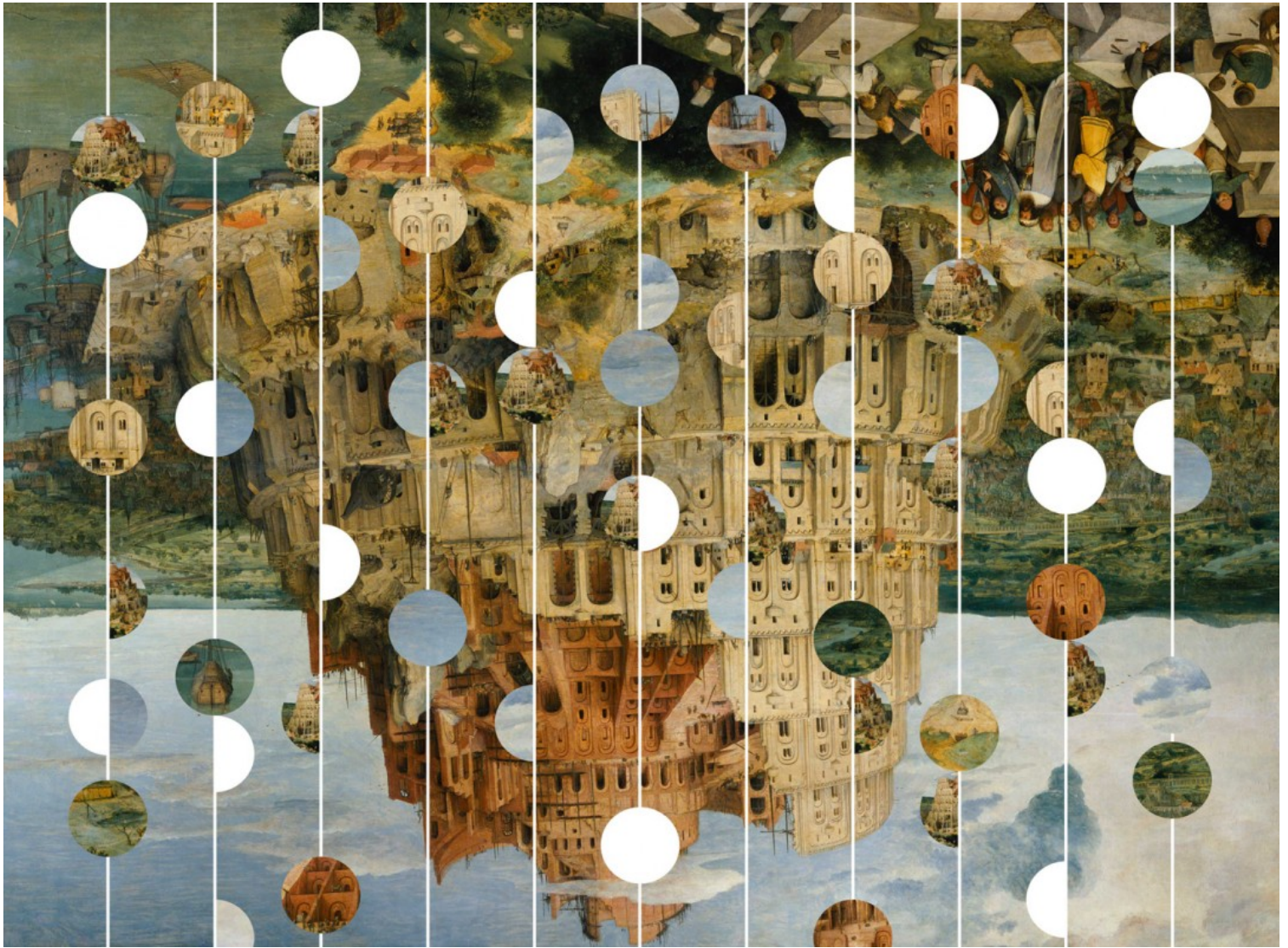
Cuban Artists: The Prodigious Decade. (<http://www.sagamorehotel.com/cuban-art-exhibit>) In Miami Beach, the Sagamore Hotel is hosting this survey of art by the 80s Generation. Curated by Willy Castellanos and Adriana Herrera of Aluna Curatorial Collective with Sebastien Labreau of the Sagamore Hotel, *The Prodigious Decade* features the work of more than 20 artists—most of them children during the Revolution, or born soon after.



The Prodigious Decade: Arturo Cuenca, *Utopyssey: Shipbuilding*, 2002
Courtesy Aluna Curatorial Collective

Featured artists include José Manuel Fors, Juan Sí González, Consuelo Castañeda, Ana Albertina Delgado, Tonel, and Rubén Torres Llorca, among others.

The art that this generation produced tended to undermine official narratives and iconography of political power. Taking a frequently playful approach, they drew on popular culture, international art movements, and Afro-Cuban rituals.



Consuelo Castañeda, *Babel*, 2013
Courtesy Aluna Curatorial Collective

With no art market to speak of, they focused on creating the kinds of art that they felt were most needed in Cuban society at the time. Today, they continue to make innovative art from Havana, Miami, and elsewhere.

THE PRODIGIOUS DECADE

A Selection of Recent and Historic Artworks by Cuban Artists from the 80's Generation

At The Sagamore Hotel, Miami Beach | Curated by Aluna Curatorial Collective and Sebastien Laboureau



9X5VIDEOART

4 Pérez Bravo | 2 Saavedra | 1 Castro | 1 González | 1 Echevarría | Video-Art

Video too. *The Prodigious Decade* includes videos by Marta María Pérez Bravo, Lázaro Saavedra, and other artists.

Courtesy Aluna Curatorial Collective

The Prodigious Decade runs through August 31 at the Sagamore Hotel in Miami Beach.

Rafael Soriano: *The Artist as Mystic*. The retrospective that premiered this past January at the McMullen Museum of Art in Boston has arrived on the West Coast, where it's now showing at the Long Beach Museum of Art. Close to 100 paintings, drawings, and pastels trace Soriano's career from early geometric abstractions to the translucent forms of his later work. Through October 1.

Read the interview with the show's curator, Elizabeth Thompson Goizueta, [here](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/soriano-rediscovered-the-artist-as-mystic) (<http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/soriano-rediscovered-the-artist-as-mystic>).



Rafael Soriano, *Juego infantil* (Children's Game), 1950s
Courtesy McMullen Museum of Art

And Pacific Standard Time begins. We'll have more on this cultural initiative, which involves some 70 museums and organizations across Southern California. Things hit full speed in September, but there's one show to catch now and next week, one more. At LACMA, *Home – So Different, So Appealing* (<http://www.lacma.org/art/exhibition/home-so-different-so-appealing>) looks at the idea of home from a Latin American and Latino perspective—including works by Luis Cruz Azaceta, Félix González Torres, and María Elena González.



DECONSTRUCTING LIBERTY

a Destiny Manifested

August 5 - October 15, 2017

Through performance, installation, video, and photography, these artists question ideas traditionally associated with American liberty as they resonate in forms of collective identity across the globe.

Curated By: **Marisa Caichiolo**

ARTISTS: **EUGENIA VARGAS PEREIRA** (Chile), **NORTON MAZA** (Chile), **LEONARDO GONZALEZ** (Honduras), **ANGEL DELGADO** (Cuba), **OMAR PIMIENTA** (Mexico), **LUIZA PRADO** (Brazil), **REYNIER LEYVA NOVO** (Cuba), **CARLOS MARTIEL** (Cuba), **BETSABEE ROMERO** (Mexico), **LINDA VALLEJO** (Los Angeles), **ANDREA JUAN** (Argentina), **ANGEL RICARDO RICARDO RIOS** (Cuba), **RICARDO RODRIGUEZ** (Puerto Rico), **ELIU ALMONTE** (Dominican Republic)

MUZEEO

Museum and Cultural Center

Courtesy Muzeo

And in Anaheim, a week from this Saturday, on August 5, *Deconstructing Liberty: A Destiny Manifested* (<http://muzeo.org/?exhibition=deconstructing-liberty-a-destiny-manifested>) opens at Muzeo Museum and Cultural Center. The exhibition features an international roster of artists, including Ángel Delgado, Reynier Leyva Novo, Carlos Martiel, and Ángel Ricardo Ricardo Ríos.

Both shows run through October 15.

Overlook: Teresita Fernández Confronts Frederic Church at Olana.

In upstate New York, high above the banks of the Hudson River, stands Olana, the estate of 19th-century American artist Frederic Church.

It's a great day-trip destination from New York City—especially since, through November 5, Olana is presenting an exhibition by Teresita Fernández.

Her show is a critical look at Church and his contemporaries, and an exploration of how the "American" landscape is defined, and by whom.

"In my own work I've always regarded the landscape in an almost anthropomorphized and reciprocal way, so that if you look at the landscape, the landscape must, it seems, also look back at you," Fernández has written. "This premise of looking and being looked at shaped my ideas for *Overlook*."

"The installation in the main gallery consists of a densely packed wall of portraits staring at a wall filled with landscape paintings. The subjects here return their gaze to the painted landscapes that perhaps depict the lands of their origins in images where they do not see themselves."



Installation view of *Overlook: Teresita Fernández Confronts Frederic Church at Olana*
 Photo: Cuban Art News

See the photo walk-through, with more from Teresita Fernández, [here](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/teresita-fernandez-at-olana-sometimes-landscape-is-about-what-you-cant-see/6149) (<http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/teresita-fernandez-at-olana-sometimes-landscape-is-about-what-you-cant-see/6149>).

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Olga Viso on Adíós Utopía, US-Cuba Relations, and the Changing Role of Museums ([/news/olga-viso-on-adios-utopia-us-cuba-relations-and-the-changing-role-of-museum/6475](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/olga-viso-on-adios-utopia-us-cuba-relations-and-the-changing-role-of-museum/6475))



Pavel Acosta Proenza Wins 2017 CINTAS Visual Arts Award ([/news/pavel-acosta-proenza-wins-2017-cintas-visual-arts-award/6428](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/pavel-acosta-proenza-wins-2017-cintas-visual-arts-award/6428))



In Havana, a New Vision for Espacio Aglutinador ([/news/in-havana-a-new-vision-for-espacio-aglutinador/6400](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/in-havana-a-new-vision-for-espacio-aglutinador/6400))

FEATURES (/CAN/CATEGORY/FEATURES)

Prehistoric Art in Punta del Este, Cuba ([/news/a-fresh-look-at-prehistoric-art-in-Cubas-punta-del-este/6456](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/a-fresh-look-at-prehistoric-art-in-Cubas-punta-del-este/6456))

El paquete semanal Comes to New York ([/news/el-paquete-semanal-comes-to-new-york/6457](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/el-paquete-semanal-comes-to-new-york/6457))

Saving the Surfaces: Rosa Lowinger on Cuba's Facades & Decorative Finishes ([/news/saving-the-surfaces-rosa-lowinger-on-cubas-facades-decorative-finishes/6442](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/saving-the-surfaces-rosa-lowinger-on-cubas-facades-decorative-finishes/6442))



HEADLINES (/HEADLINES)

Miami Art Week – Cuban Art in Museums, Art Spaces, Galleries ([/news/miami-art-week-cuban-art-in-museums-art-spaces-galleries/6519](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/miami-art-week-cuban-art-in-museums-art-spaces-galleries/6519))

Art Week starts early for Cuban art, with the first exhibition openings this Friday and more shows already running in museums and galleries around town. Here's a roundup of shows to catch before—and during—the fairs.

November = Photography in Havana ([/news/november-photography-in-havana/6514](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/november-photography-in-havana/6514))

It's not every city that turns itself over to photography on an annual basis, but Havana has been hosting *Noviembre Fotográfico* for more than a decade. As the month draws to a close, Lidia Hernández Tapía looks at some of the notable exhibitions and events.

Auction Recap: Strong Showing for Cuban Contemporary Amid Mixed Results for Latin American ([/news/auction-recap-strong-showing-for-cuban-contemporary-amid-mixed-results/6510](http://www.cubanartnews.org/news/auction-recap-strong-showing-for-cuban-contemporary-amid-mixed-results/6510))

In an interesting turnaround this auction season, Wifredo Lam and his 20th-century contemporaries weren't the focus for Cuban art. Instead, contemporary Cuban art took the spotlight, turning in solid results and setting impressive new records.

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