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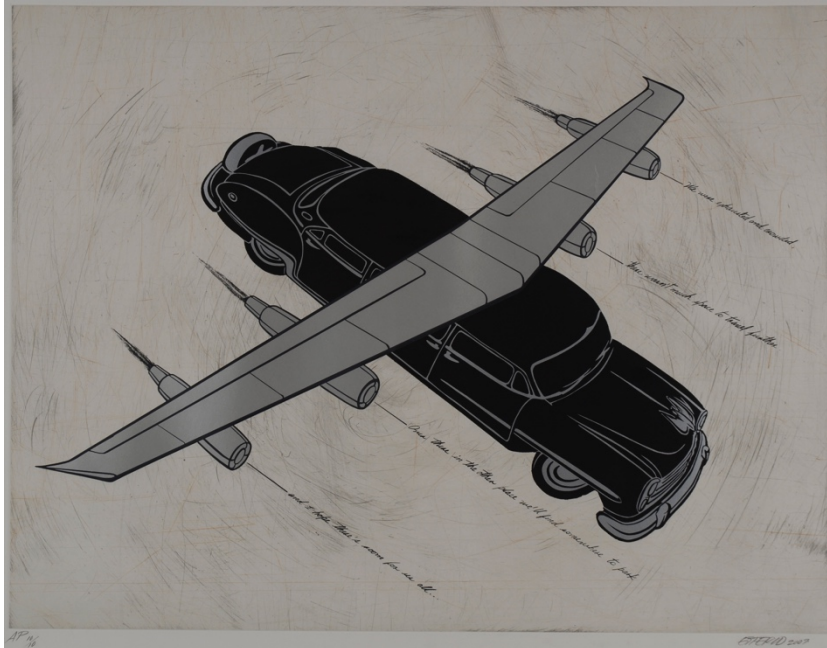


## GODWIN-TERNBACH MUSEUM EXHIBITION WILL EXAMINE CONTEMPORARY ART FROM CUBA, OCTOBER 17, 2019 – FEBRUARY 20, 2020

– ARTE CUBANO will feature works by Jose Bedia, Sandra Ramos, Los Carpinteros, Esterio Segura, Kcho, Yoan Capote, and Diana Fonseca –

QUEENS, NY, October 07, 2019 - “Every Cuban is a mechanic,” a popular folk saying on the island, is reflected in the sheer materiality of the art works in *Arte Cubano* from ephemeral found objects to the gravity of cast bronze. This ingenuity is also reflected in the fluidity of ideas presented in forty-three works that highlight a universally agreed-upon characteristic of the island’s art: an incredible diversity. Cuban art is so rich in large part because of its cultural blend of African, European, and Latin/Caribbean influences. Add to these traditional roots the revolution of 1959, and Cuban art occupies a unique aesthetic place in the contemporary art world. *Arte Cubano* opens on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to the public with an evening opening reception on October 16<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-8pm at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum.

A featured artist, Esterio Segura, who is represented by three works in the exhibition: a bronze sculpture, an intaglio print, and a photograph, will be present at the opening reception on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Segura is known in New York City for his hauntingly poetic installation, “Goodbye My Love,” sponsored by Times Square Arts in 2013, and from exhibiting in art museums and biennials internationally.



Esterio Segura

Hybrid of Chrysler from the series "Everyone Wants to Fly"

Serigraph, intaglio, and relief on paper

Courtesy private collection

Building on changing relationships between the governments of the United States and Cuba, this timely exhibition reflects more than twenty-five Cuban artists' ruminations on the quotidian, social, and political realities of the island and the contemporary world. The island geography and political intensity of Cuba inform the work in a way that is immediately identifiable, often concealing coded, even subversive, ideas while simultaneously celebrating the richness of Cuba's cultural identity. Peeling away the layers of Cuban art often reveals a story of struggle caused by economic and political consequences, and the social upheaval that a true revolution produces.

The exhibition's artists include Lidzie Alvisa, José Bedia, Los Carpinteros, Yoan Capote, Enrique Celaya, Roberto Fabelo, Diana Fonseca, Pedro Pablo Oliva, Kcho, Sandra Ramos, Esterio Segura, and more. Spanning several generations, these contemporary Cuban artists come from an unusual place: a country often isolated because of its socialist revolution. All of the artists in this collection grew up in socialist Cuba, and many graduated from the prestigious Instituto Superior de Arte—built at the beginning of the revolution, Havana's equally excellent San Alejandro Art Academy, or the Escuela Nacional de Arte. Others graduated from local art schools. Despite their disparate backgrounds, aesthetic sensibilities, subject matter, materials, and styles, there is something uniquely Cuban about the works in this exhibition.

The intensity and depth of meaning, with the specific physical and political context, make Cuban art immediately identifiable and powerful, and an important voice in the art world today. Most of all, the art is connected to Cuba itself. Both the country and the art are an unusual mix of the traditional and the modern, of the ordinary and the special, of simplicity and incredible complexity. The same can be said for the politics, the literature, the architecture, and the people. It confounds and entrances, it is rejecting and embracing.

Mid-America Arts Alliance/ExhibitsUSA co-organized *Arte Cubano* with the Center for Cuban Studies (NYC) to synthesize two extraordinary private collections generously made available for the project. This exhibition could not have been made possible without their collecting vision and loan generosity. The Center for Cuban Studies opened in 1972 and was organized by a group of scholars, writers, artists, and other professionals, in response to the effects of US policy toward Cuba.

**Exhibition:** *Arte Cubano*

**Host Organization:** The Godwin-Ternbach Museum at Queens College

**Runs:** October 17, 2019- February 20, 2019

**Gallery Hours:** Monday–Thursday, 10 am–5 pm, and Saturday, 11 am–5 pm.

**The opening reception will be Wednesday, October 16 from 6–8 pm.**

Information on free public programs related to the exhibition is available at [www.gtmuseum.org](http://www.gtmuseum.org).

**Location:** 405 Klapper Hall at Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Boulevard in Flushing, Queens. For a map and directions to the campus, visit <https://www.qc.cuny.edu/about/directions/Pages/default.aspx>.

**Admission:** Free

**Contact:** 718-997-4747

### About ExhibitsUSA

This exhibition is toured by ExhibitsUSA, a national program of Mid-America Arts Alliance. ExhibitsUSA sends more than twenty-five exhibitions on tour to over 100 small- and mid-sized communities every year. These exhibitions create access to an array of arts and humanities experiences, nurture the understanding of diverse cultures and art forms, and encourage the expanding depth and breadth of cultural life in local communities. For more about ExhibitsUSA, email [MoreArt@maaa.org](mailto:MoreArt@maaa.org) or visit [www.eusa.org](http://www.eusa.org).

### **About Mid-America Arts Alliance**

Mid-America Arts Alliance (M-AAA) strengthens and supports artists, cultural organizations, and communities throughout our region and beyond. We achieve this primarily through our national traveling exhibition programs, innovative leadership development, and strategic grant making. We are especially committed to enriching the cultural life of historically underserved communities by providing high quality, meaningful, and accessible arts and culture programs and services. We believe in more art for more people. Additional information about M-AAA is available at [www.maaa.org](http://www.maaa.org).

### **About the Godwin-Ternbach Museum**

The Godwin-Ternbach Museum, a part of Queens College's Kupferberg Center for the Visual and Performing Arts, presents contemporary and historical exhibitions and programs that provide exciting educational opportunities and aesthetic experiences to the Queens College community and residents of Queens, Manhattan and Long Island. As the only collection of art and artifacts in the borough housing close to 7,000 objects that date from ancient to modern and contemporary times, the museum introduces visitors to works they might not otherwise encounter. Lectures, symposia, gallery talks, workshops, concerts, and tours complement and interpret the art on view to serve the needs and interests of local communities. All exhibitions and programs are free. [www.gtmuseum.org](http://www.gtmuseum.org)

### **About Queens College**

Queens College graduates the most teachers, counselors, and principals serving in New York City public schools. The college contributes to the local talent pool as a powerful economic engine and a leader in tech education, with more computer science majors than any college in New York City. Students from across the country and around the world are attracted to study at the Aaron Copland School of Music. Its renowned faculty and alumni include nationally recognized composers, conductors and performers who have received over 100 Grammy Awards and nominations.

Queens College enjoys a national reputation for its liberal arts and sciences and pre-professional programs. With its graduate and undergraduate degrees, honors programs, and research and internship opportunities, the college helps its nearly 20,000 students realize their potential in countless ways, assisted by an accessible, award-winning faculty. Located on a beautiful, 80-acre campus in Flushing, the college is cited each year in the Princeton Review as one of the nation's 100 "Best Value" colleges, as well as being ranked a U.S. News and World Report Best College and Forbes Magazine Best Value College thanks to its outstanding academics, generous financial aid packages, and relatively low costs. Visit our [homepage](#) to learn more.