

A Space to Have A Space

Juliana Bukowitz
&
Roberto Montes de Oca



5900 Sunset Drive, South Miami, FL, USA



Semper Fi, 2024, enamels and wax on canvas, 10 in x 8 in

Cover:

Juliana Bukowitz, Semper Fi, 2024, Enamels and Wax on Canvas, 10" x 8"

Roberto Montes de Oca, Grand Scheme of Things, 2023, Acrylic on Canvas, 36" x 36"



&



Present

A Space to Have A Space

December 2024

Miami Art Week, Miami, FL, USA

"The clearest way into the universe is through a forest wilderness"

– John Muir

In this exhibition, we juxtapose the works of two artists, Juliana Bukowitz and Roberto Montes de Oca, who reach toward universality through their disparate lenses, one earthbound and the other cosmic, and who lead us to reflect within and without.

We do not ask for a passive viewing or a cursory nod. Rather, we ask the viewer to, in the work of Bukowitz, move through the terrestrial, elemental reminders and invocations of our planetary home, and from these activations of memory and birthright, to project the mind's eye toward the celestial perspective brought by Montes de Oca.

This movement seeks to evoke a spectral interference in the viewer, as if infra-red operators were signaling the viewer through to visible light arrays culminated in gamma infused frameworks, each prompting a new confrontation, asking for a new solution.

This confrontation is not "AND/OR". It seeks to find new operators within us, that "star-stuff" that Carl Sagan so famously alluded to, which was so inspirational to Montes de Oca in this series.

So this Miami Art Week, let's claim a space a to have a space. In such fragmented times, let us turn the tatters of our attention toward these marks, each in turn a guide, the reassuring yet beguiling strata of Bukowitz's compositions like the heavy tow of our own ionic boundaries, our vibratory framework on the verge of being hacked. And from this vulnerable, venerable bio-space, let's borrow Montes de Oca's imaginary Webb telescope to project into time, to reflect as our ancestors reflected. Or maybe even to reflect with our ancestors, somewhere in the antiquity of now.

Gined López Ganem

Founder, GG Art Space



TA Foda!, 2024, Ceramic Assemblage, 11 x 9 in



Mimuspoliglottus, 2024, Mixed Media
Assemblage, 12 x 8 in



Lichen, 2024, Acrylic and Mixed Media on Canvas, 14 x 18 in



Ecce Hoc, 2024, Cardboard, Wax, Lacquer, and Pencil 4'd
Sea My Oyster, 2024, Cardboard, Lacquer, Metallic Stains, 13" d
Drawing Parallels, 2024, Cardboard, Lacquer, Wax & Pencil, 15" d
Dayd, 2024, Paint, Wax, and Lacquer on Screen, 2' x 4'



Birth of Depth, Cardboard and Wax on Balsa 8" x 5"
Abacus Primus, Mixed Media and Wax on Wood, 12" x 12"
Devas, Mixed Media and Wax on Wood, 8" x 6"



Amethyst Youniverse, 2024, Acrylic on Canvas, 4' x 4'
Art Matter, Silicone and Nylon on Wood, 13" d
Petri, Wax and Mixed Media on Wood, 15" d
Messy Meal, Ceramic Assemblage, 20" x 11"
Fucking Chaos, Ceramic Assemblage, 20" x 10"



Detail *Fucking Chaos*, Ceramic Assemblage 20" x 10"



Detail *Passion...*, Ceramic Assemblage 20" x 10"



Installation In Situ, Dorn Building, 2024



Semper Fi, 2024, Enamel and Wax on Canvas

Semper Sapiens, 2024, Wax and Enamel on Mounted Glass, 6" x 12"

Omnia Paramus, Very Vigil!, Porcelain and Glazes, 9"d



Detail *Omnia Paramus, Very Vigil!*, Porcelain and Glazes, 9"d



Juliana Bukowitz Biography

Juliana Bukowitz has been producing ceramics for over 20 years. She received her BFA from Hunter College, New York, NY, USA, and has a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership from Barry University. Ms. Bukowitz continues to work and train in ceramics while living in Miami, FL. Her work can be found in public and private collections, and has been seen in numerous exhibitions. An accomplished ceramicist, Ms. Bukowitz conceives of graceful functional and nonfunctional forms whose surfaces are worked with an exuberant, intuitive use of glazes and experimental firing techniques. The glazing techniques often resemble natural weathering and in formalistic terms, these surfaces engage the viewer as much as the overall forms they are applied to.

Artist Statement

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Miami-based multimedia artist Juliana Bukowitz was raised among musicians. Her initial exposure to art being purely auditory, Bukowitz quickly developed a fascination, not for multimedia art, but for the philosophical perspective that art could be a multimedia exploration of the human psyche.

During her adolescence, Bukowitz lived for a time in Rome, Italy where her exposure to tactile, visual arts began. "In Rome", Bukowitz states, "there is art from the sidewalks beneath our feet, running all the way up to the enormous pillars that buttress the churches, museums, and restaurants." Bukowitz's analysis of art within the contexts of archeology, anthropology and world history were fostered in the ancient city which stands as layers upon layers of artwork indicating specific epochs, cultures, and religious influences. Perhaps most notable for Bukowitz in her historical analysis of the arts, was that which withstood the brutal test of time most unyieldingly. Ceramics are perhaps our oldest tie to the origins of organized human society.

Bukowitz would say "consider when man discovered he could make fire. Now consider the moist dirt now exposed to heat; man, now observing how certain earths when combined with water and then heated, shifted. The first malleable, utilitarian material. Before metal, there was ceramic and stone. And these were not just bowls to eat from, these were ceremonial pots, urns for burial, jewelry, and arrowheads. Ceramics were the first step towards the sophistication of mankind."

It was this immortality and ubiquitous cultural impact that ignited Bukowitz's incredible fascination for ceramics and the miraculous discovery that mankind came upon by playing with the wet earth. For Bukowitz, it is not only the product, but the process by which clay is formed and tested by the artist that grants her work a tactile, as well as visual, appreciation. As Bukowitz expresses to all her students, clay is to be felt. An artist should test the clay's limits; observing when it becomes dry, the breaking point of the materials and every stage of the ceramic-making process.

JULIANA BUKOWITZ

1972 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Lives and work in Miami, FL

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2019 Buka Ware: Design Collection, Surge Gallery, Miami Beach, FL
2011 Heirloom, Harvest Arts, Miami, FL
2010 Vox Multiplas, Halligon Fine Arts, Miami FL
2009 Skeptically Gullible, UnderGrund at Santa Barbara Hotel, Art Basel Miami Beach, FL
2003 Untold, Art Installation and Poetry, Bella Bambina Experimental Art Space
2001 Post Scriptum, 6G Art Gallery, Calle Ocho, Miami, FL

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 Opus Iterum, On Site Installation, AnEyeDiary summer Show, Miami, FL
2019 Miami Reload, EdgeZones, Miami, FL
2018 First Assembly, EdgeZones, Miami, FL
2014 Art Fall Out, Girls Club, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
2011 Food, Home, Love, EdgeZones, Miami, FL
2010 Yellow, MyPAC Private Art Club, Miami, FL
A Light Above the Rest, MyPAC Private Art Club, Miami, FL
2001 Ritz on Sixth, Viernes Culturales, Calle Ocho, Miami, FL
MDCC 35th Annual Exhibition, Kendall Campus, Miami, FL
2000 Hunter Sculpture – Recent Work, Bertha and Karl Leubsdorf Gallery, New York, NY
1998 Art From The Heart, Ward-Nasse Gallery Soho, New York, NY
1997 Greenwich House Pottery Annual Exhibition, Jane Hartsook Gallery, New York, NY

URBAN ART SITE INTERVENTIONS

2021 Soho, New York, NY
Main Ave, Coconut Grove, Miami, FL
2020 Main Ave, Coconut Grove, Miami, FL
2020 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2019 Design District, Miami, FL
2018 Stockholm, Sweeden
Buena Vista, Miami, FL
Havana, Cuba
2017 Puerto Rico, US
Waterways of Normandy Isle, Miami Beach, FL
2016 Teatro Cacilda Becker, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2015 Horto, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2012 Jardim Botânico, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2010 Red Light District, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Prinsengracht, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Red Light Districk, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
1999 Soho, New York, NY
1996 East Village, New York, NY

COMMISSIONS AND COLLECTIONS

- 2024 La Ferneteria, Wynwood, Miami, FL.
William Lane, Architecture, Miami Beach, FL
Ms. Andrew Halloran, Miami, FL
- 2023 Mrs & Mr. Reinaldo Peixe Lima, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Ms. Adriana Cardona Design, Miami, FL
State Attorney's Office, Miami, FL
Ms. Laura Fernandez
William Lane Architecture, Miami, FL
- 2022 Little Brazil, Miami Beach, FL
Ernesto Damian, Gallo Ocho, Miami, FL
Alliance of Mercy, Ft Lauderdale, FL
Ms Mariana Donner, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2021 Michael Saruski Design, Miami, FL
The Jacobs Residence, Flamingo RD, Miami Beach, FL
Margot Wine Bar, Dwortown Miami, FL
Hoja Taqueria, Miami Beach, FL
The GLD Shop, Wynwood, Miami, FL
- 2020 Mr Lourenco Nabuco, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil
Ball and Chain, Calle Ocho, Miami, FL
Buena Vista, Miami FL
TAMPAX, USA
- 2019 Churchill's, Miami, FL
Morrel Doucett, Miami, FL
Sanatura Yogic Arts, Miami, FL
- 2018 Las Rosas, Miami, FL
William Lane Architecture, Miami, FL
- 2017 Nick Lobo, Miami, FL
Rosa Negra, Polanco, Mexico City, MX
Zuma Miami, Miami, FL
The El-Naffy Residence, Coral Gables, FL
Tanuki, Miami FL
Baccardi, Miami, FL
- 2016 Halloran Contrusction, Miami, FL
The Caviar Russe, Miami, FL
- 2015 Mr Machado and Ms. Young, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2004 Mr. Peter Garcia and Mr. Markus Thiel, Miami Beach, FL
Mr. Otavio Bezerra Neves and Ms. Luciana Barreto Pereira, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2003 Mr. Ralph Bias and Mr. Mark Zilberg, The Murano Grande, Miami Beach, FL
Jeffrey Lamb Home, Boutique Store, Miami Beach, FL (ongoing)
Mr. John Marazza, Miami Beach, FL

COMMISSIONS AND COLLECTIONS

- 2001 Mrs. and Mr. Daniel Lobo-Berg, Plainfield, NJ
Sivananda Yoga Center, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 1998 Mr. Machado and Ms. Young, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 1996 Yellow Lamp Café, East Village, New York, NY
Geomancy, East Village, New York, NY
Hindsgull Mannequin School, New York, NY

AWARDS

RESIDENCIES

- 2018 La Sierra Art Residency - Ceramics Research and Development. Santa Marta de La Sierra Nevada, Colombia

ARTICLES AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 Miami Herald, WEEKEND, Article by Florencia Frances
- 2005 Miami SunPost, FOCUS, Article by Ashley Mitchell, Miami, FL
- 2001 Miami New Times, ART, Buried Treasures, by Alfredo Triff, Miami, FL
- 1999 The Brazilians: Elas, Women in New York, New York, NY
- 1999 City Life - Weekly News, New York, NY
- 1995 The New York Times, The Metropolitan Opera House Opening Season, New York, NY

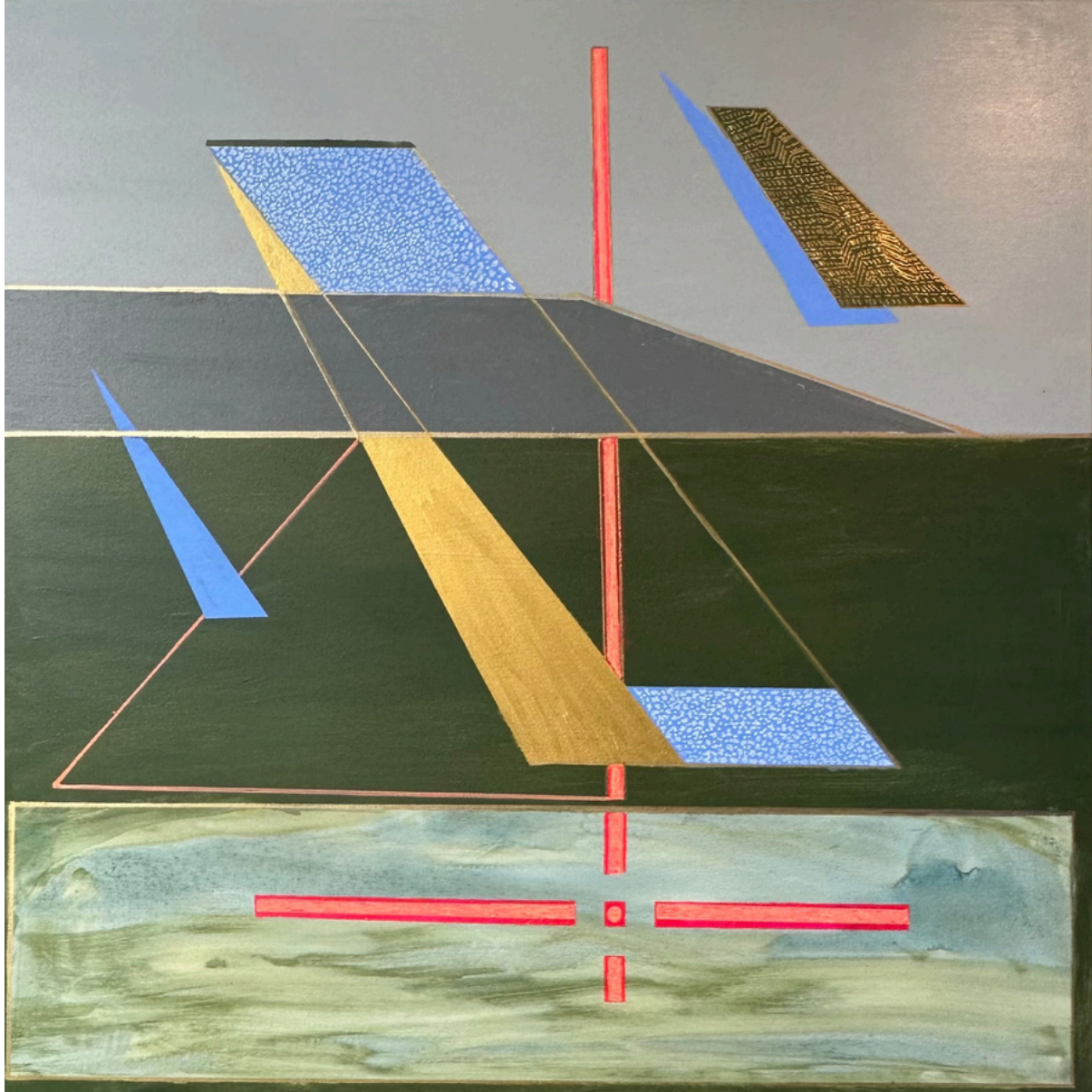
TV

- 2005 Discovery Channel, Make Room for Baby
Discovery Health, Stronger by Design

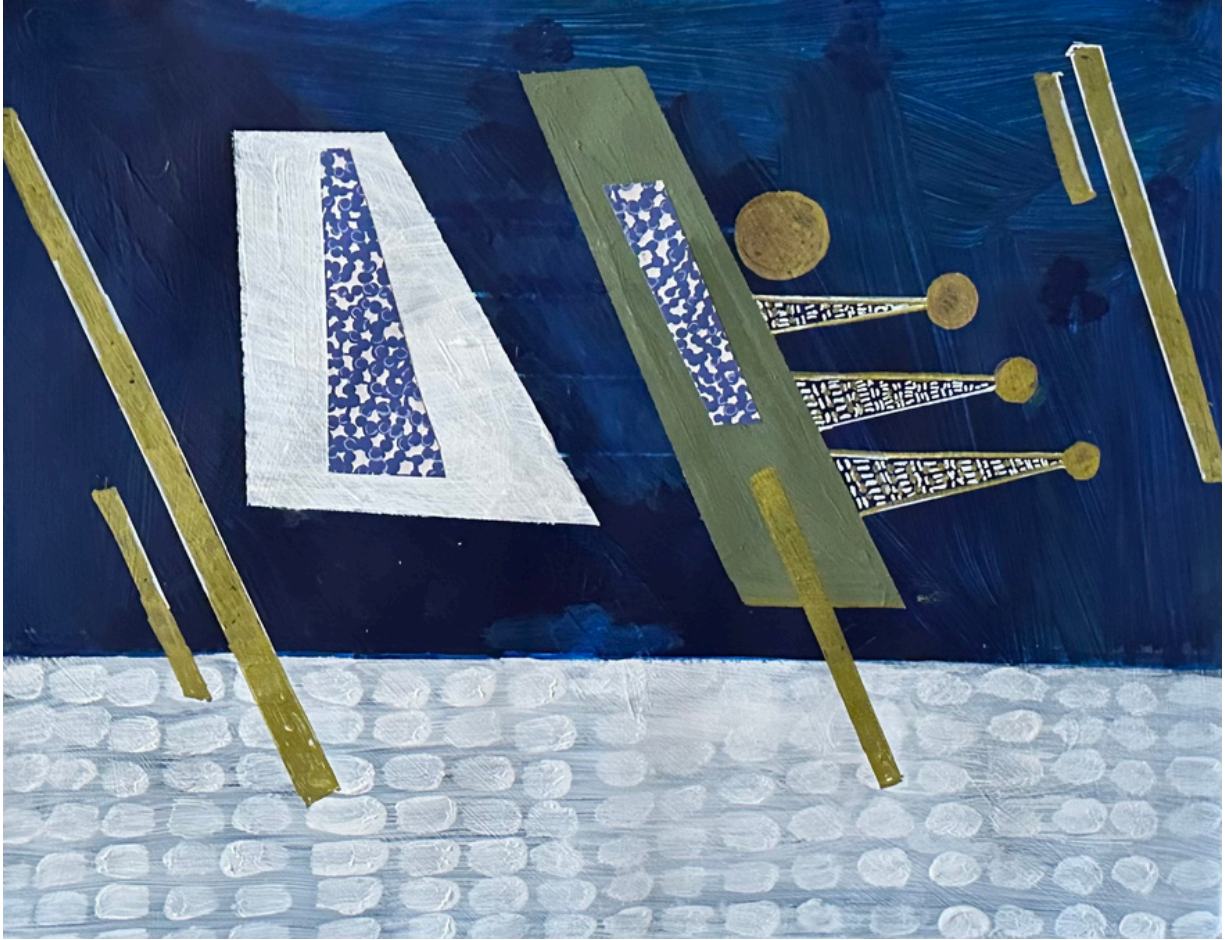
THEATRICAL AND PROFESSIONAL MAKE-UP

- 1996 Gullera Ugur, Photographer, New York City, NY
Eric Xandres, Photographer, New York City, NY
- 1995 School of Visual Arts, New York City, NY

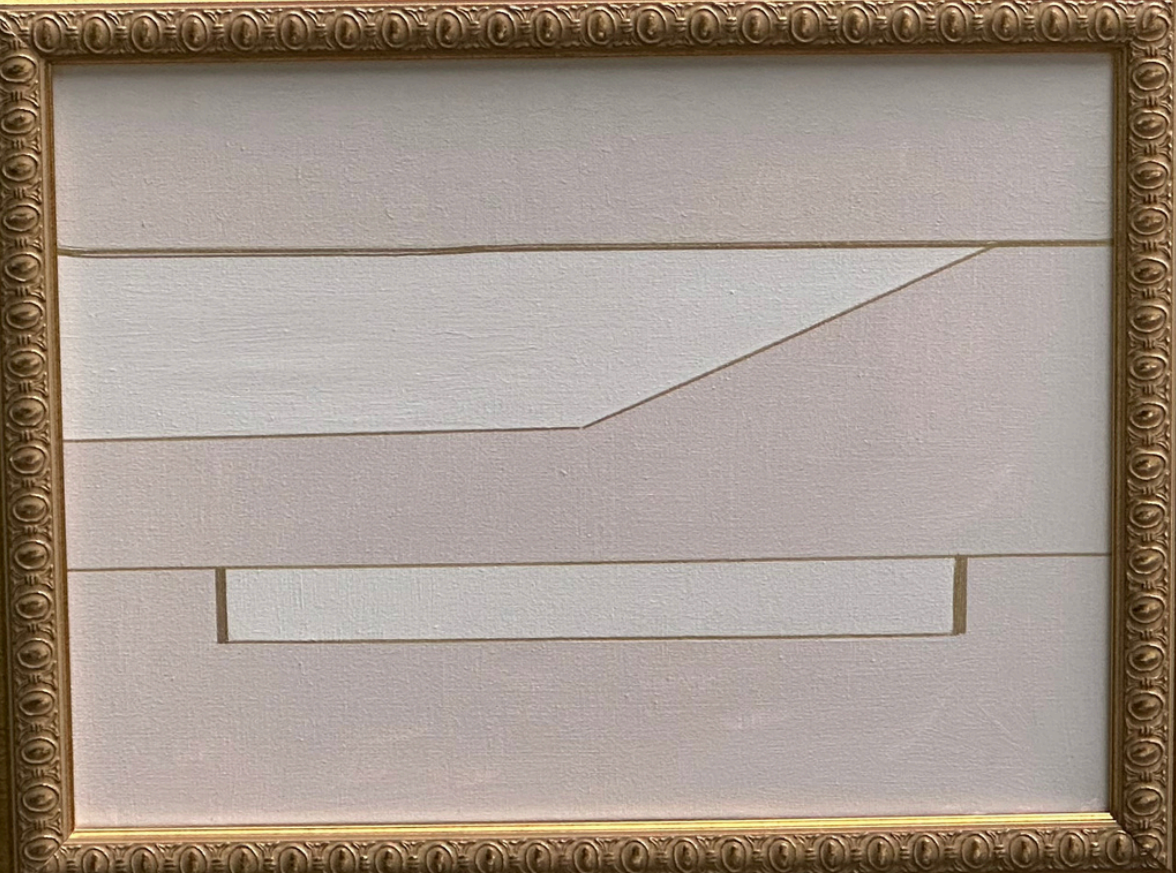
Time and Space Singularities Series



The Grand Scheme of Things, 2023, acrylic on canvas, 36 x 36 in



Cosmic Rhythm, 2023, acrylic on paper collage, 11 x 14 in



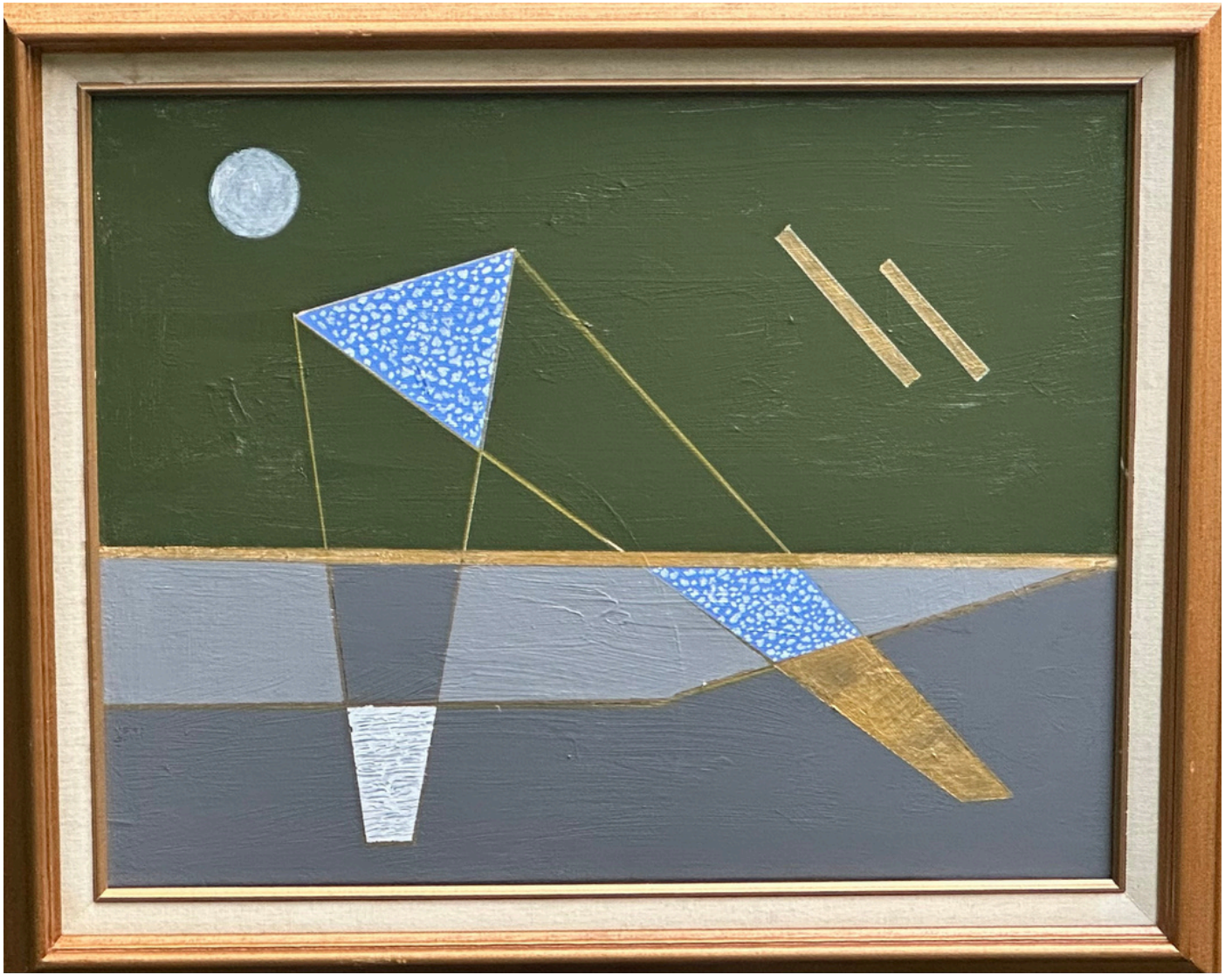
Gravitational Collapse, 2023, acrylic on canvas, 16 x 12 in



Indifferent Universe, 2023, acrylic on paper, 11 x 14 in



Indifferent Universe, 2023, acrylic on paper 11 x 14 in



Interstellar Tower, 2023, acrylic on canvas 16 x 20 in



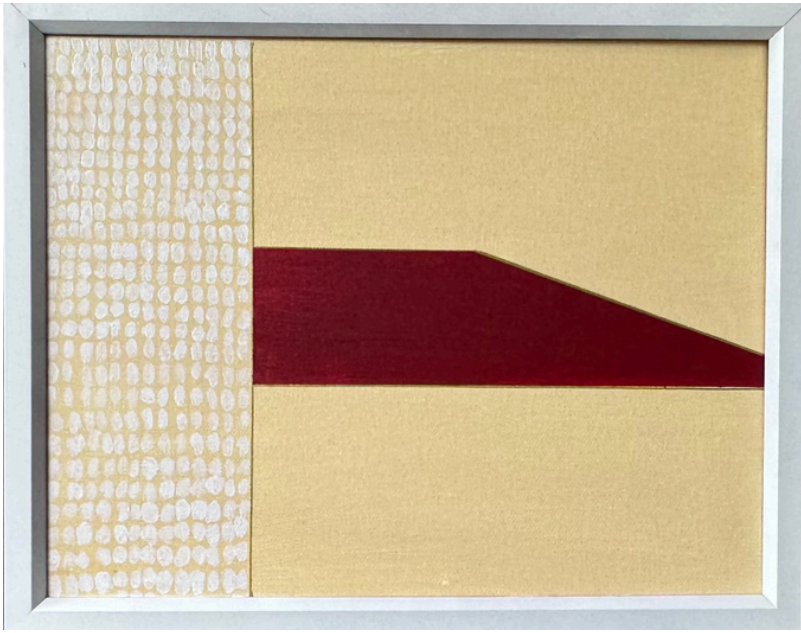
Interstellar Tower 2, 2023, mixed media collage 4 x 4 in



SMBH 1, 2023, acrylic on paper 11 x 14 in



SMBH 2 , 2023, acrylic on paper 11 x 14 in



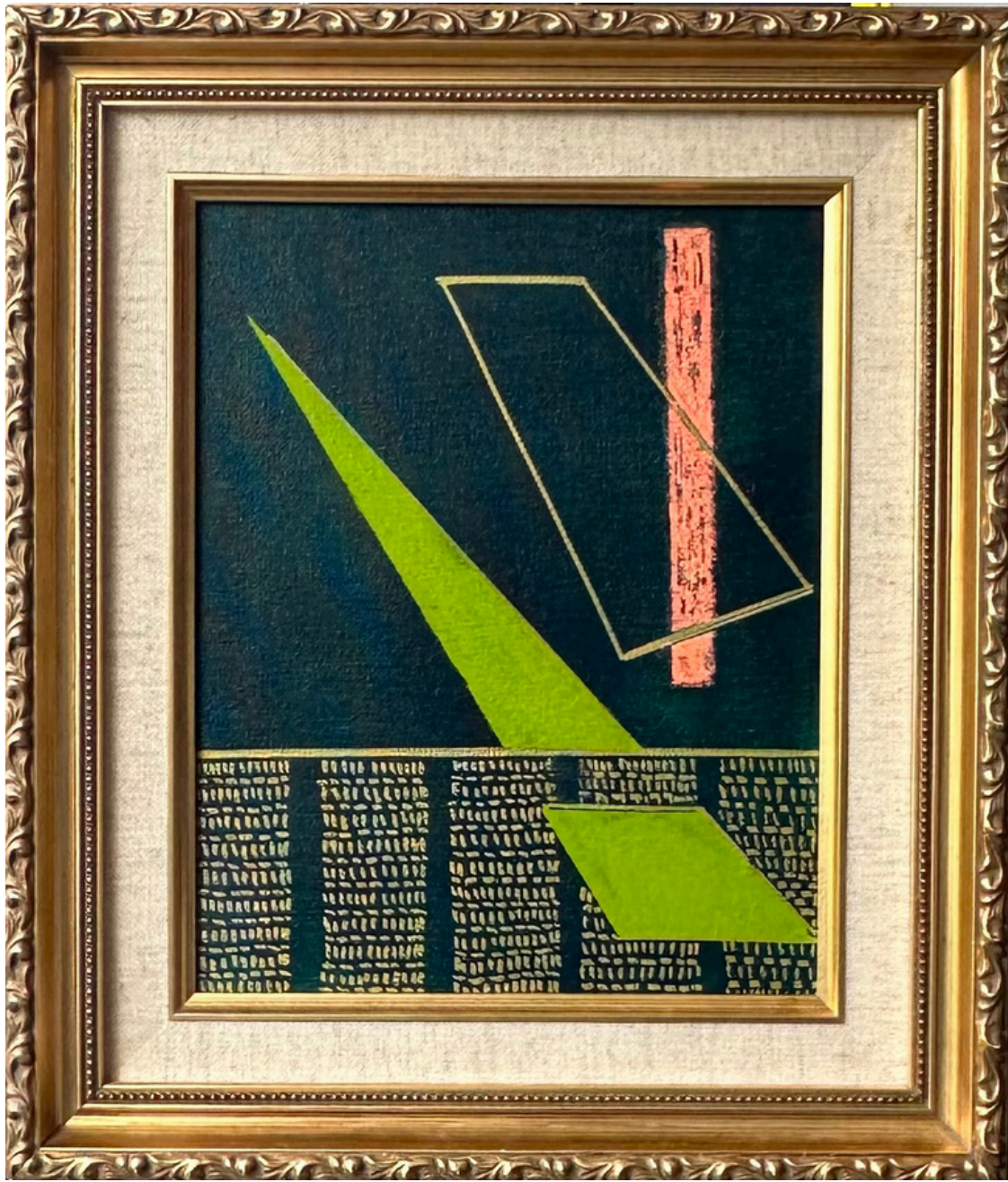
Sublime Astronomy 1 , 2023, acrylic on canvas 14 x 18 in



Sublime Astronomy 2, 2023, acrylic on canvas 18 x 23 in



Time Continuum 1-4, 2023, acrylic on canvas 5 x 7 in



Time Continuum 5, 2023, acrylic on canvas 8 x 11 in



Time Continuum 6, 2023, acrylic on canvas 8 x 11 in



Tower 1, mixed medial collage 9 x 9 in



Roberto Montes de Oca Biography

Roberto Montes de Oca is a Cuban-born artist, educator, and art promoter currently based in Miami. Working across multiple mediums, including painting, collage, and installation, Montes de Oca has developed a dynamic and versatile body of work grounded in his cultural roots and his profound commitment to artistry. His work has been noted for its multicultural influences that distilled during his time traveling in flight crews, absorbing Pre-Columbian and Latin influences. Cultural iconography and abstraction are relevant figures in his work, as he journeys towards the manifoldness of a cosmic landscape.

His pieces have been widely exhibited in a range of prestigious venues, including the Dade County Art Educators Association, World Gallery, Bacardi Art Gallery, Miami Dade College Art Gallery, The Cuban Museum of Art and Culture, and The Museum of Modern Art of Latin America (Organization of American States) in Washington, D.C. Montes de Oca's work has also been featured at the Lowe Art Museum at the University of Miami, Centro Mater, La Nueva Ola's "Ten Selected Pieces," the Museum of Science, and the Federation of Cuban Students at the University of Miami. He remains deeply involved in the Miami art community through his roles as an educator and promoter, where he nurtures the growth of local artists and stimulates cross-cultural dialogue.

Artist Statement

My work delves into the profound relationship between the space we inhabit and the vast, mysterious depth of the cosmos, an external reflection of our own expanse. Through mixed media collages, I strive to encapsulate the tension and harmony that exists between ourselves and the immense space surrounding us, inviting viewers to contemplate their bond with infinity and the sublimity of their own inner worlds.

Growing up on an island, I was surrounded by star-strewn skies that served as my first window into the endless universe. These early experiences under celestial canopies became an enduring inspiration, urging me to capture that interplay of proximity and distance, grounding and transcendence. I hope my work encourages others to explore their own connection with the vastness, where the boundaries between the self and the universe dissolve into an awe-inspiring reflection of our shared cosmic journey.

Roberto Montes de Oca
Born in Havana, Cuba
Resides and works in Miami, FL, United States

EDUCATION

University of Miami, BA Fine Arts, 1975

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- The Nightclub
- Dade County Art Education Association
- World Gallery
- DCAEA Annual Art Teacher Exhibition
- Bacardi Art Gallery
- Miami Dade Junior College
- The Cuban Museum of Art and Culture
- The Museum of Modern Art of Latin America, Organization of American States, Washington D.C.
- The Lowe Art Museum of the University of Miami
- Centro Mater
- La Nueva Ola, "Ten Selected Pieces"
- Museum of Science, Miami, Florida
- Federation of Cuban Students, University of Miami



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