

FREDRIC SNITZER GALLERY

Tomás Esson

Born 1963 in Havana, Cuba
Lives and works in Miami, FL

Education

1987 Instituto Superior de Arte, Havana, Cuba
1982 Academia de Artes Plásticas San Alejandro, Cuba

Solo Exhibitions

2024

EKELE KWA, David Lewis Gallery, New York, NY
MIMAMI POP, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL

2023

EL RUGIDO DEL LEÓN, Easy Does it, Los Angeles, CA

2022

Tomás Esson: MUSA, David Lewis, East Hampton, NY

2021

S.O.S. CUBA, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL
KRAKEN, David Lewis, New York, NY

2020

Tomas Esson: The GOAT, Institute of Contemporary Art Miami, Miami, Florida

2019

Miami Flow II, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, Florida

2017

Miami Flow, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, Florida

2010

Tomas Esson: THE RETURN OF THE DRAGON, Ramis Barquet Gallery, Chelsea New York City

2008

EL BICHO 2008/09, Hammonds House Galleries and Resources Center of African American Art, Atlanta, Georgia, Brochure with Artist Interviewed by Ana Margarita Fernandez

2000

MONDONGO GORDO, Wet Drawings Show, Denise Andrews Gallery, Miami, Florida

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1997

WET PAINTINGS for The White House, Brewster Arts LTD, New York City

1995

AGUA, Vrej Baghoomian Gallery, Soho, New York City

1993

Chá-Chá-Chá, Galería Ramis Barquet, Art Cologne - Internationaler Kunstmarkt. Cologne, Germany.
Catalogue with artist's interview by Edward Sullivan

1991

¡Que Calor!, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL. Catalogue with essays by Coco Fusco and Antonio Eligio, 'Tonel'

1988

A Tarro Partido II, Galería 23 y 12, La Habana, Cuba (Censored and Closed Exhibition)
ESSONSISEHACE, Instituto Superior de Arte, La Habana, Cuba

1987

A Tarro Partido, Museo Provincial de Villa Clara, Santa Clara, Cuba. Catalogue with essay by Gerardo Mosquera

Group Exhibitions

2023

under the beating sun, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL
45th Anniversary Show, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL
Syphilis Too (II), David Lewis Gallery, New York, NY

2022

Florida Prize in Contemporary Art, Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, FL

2021

The New Age of Bronze, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL

2020

A9, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL

2019

El circuito del arte cubano, El Apartment, Havana, Cuba

2017

Adiós Utopia: Dreams and Deceptions in Cuban Art Since 1950, The Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, Texas

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2016

Go Figure, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, Florida

2009

EXILES, Ramis Barquet Gallery, Chelsea, New York City

POST – SCRIPTUM, EDITAR, Chene-Bougeries, Geneve

Irreversible 100 Most, Inflatable TALISMAN Sculpture, CIFO Art Space, Miami, Florida

Arte América, Inflatable TALISMAN Sculpture, Miami Beach, Florida

2008

GIANTS In The CITY, Inflatable TALISMAN Sculpture, Miami, Florida

2006

Group Show, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, Florida

Unorthodox Drawings, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, Florida

Big Juicy Paintings, Miami Art Museum, Miami, Florida

2004

Nepotism: The Art of Friendship curated by Edouard Duval Carrié, Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

2003

Drawing Conclusions, Curated by Nina Arias, Miami, Florida

2002

Art From Cuba, The Ludwig Collection, State Russian Museum and Ludwig Museum, Saint Petersburg, Russia (Catalogue)

Contemporary Cuban Art in New York, Benefit and Silent Auction, New York, New York (Catalogue)

Why Don't We Do It On The Road?, Ambrosino Gallery, Miami, Florida

2001

New Art OFF Cuba, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, Florida

2000

Palmas Reales y Vitrales, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, Florida

Paper Papel, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, Florida

1999

Size Matters, GALE GATES et al, Brooklyn, New York

1998

Loin de Cuba, Musée des Tapisseries. Aix-en-Provence, France (Catalogue)

1997

FORM UND FUNKTION DER ZEICHNUNG HEUT, Frankfurt, Germany (Catalogue-cover)

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1996

Monkey Business, Brewster Arts LTD, New York

Selection Summer' 96, The Drawing Center, New York

Cuba Siglo XX Modernidad y Sincretismo, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canarias, Spain (Catalogue)

1995

Caribbean Visions, Contemporary Painting and Sculpture, Miami Art Museum, Florida (Catalogue)

1994

Premio Marco 1994, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey, México (Catalogue)

Cuba la Isla Posible, Centre de Cultura Contemporànea de Barcelona, Spain (Catalogue)

1993

Prospect 93, Eine Internationale Ausstellung Aktueller Kunst, Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, Germany (Catalogue)

1992

Aquí Arte Hispano en Orlando, City Hall, Orlando, Florida

Drawings, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, Florida

Cuatro Que Se Fueron, Osuna Gallery, Washington DC

Von Dort Aus: Kuba, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany (Catalogue)

1991

De Cubaanse Renaissance, Maatschappij Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam (Catalogue)

Los Hijos de Guillermo Tell, Museo de Artes Visuales Alejandro Otero, Caracas, Venezuela. Traveled to Banco de la República de Colombia, Bogotá. Catalogue with essay by Gerardo Mosquera

Nuevas Adquisiciones Contemporáneas: Muestras de Arte Cubano, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, La Habana, Cuba (Catalogue)

Ostkunst – Westkunst, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany (Catalogue)

Senki Sem Sziget, Ernst Muzeum, Budapest. Catalogue with essay by Judith Sarosdy.

1990

Aktuelle Kunst aus Kuba, Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen, Stuttgart, Germany (Catalogue)

The Nearest Edge of the World: Art and Cuba Now, Main Gallery, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston. Traveled to the Bronx Museum, New York. Catalogue with essays by Kellie Jones and Gerardo Mosquera.

No Man Is an Island, Poring Taidemuseo, Finland. Catalogue with essays by Marketta Seppalla, Gerardo Mosquera, Osvaldo Sánchez and Antonio Eligio 'Tonel'. Traveled to Plaffy Palace, Vienna, Austria.

1989

Contemporary Art from Havana, Riverside Studios, London, United Kingdom

Traveled to Museo de Arte Contemporáneo. Seville, Spain. Catalogue with essay by Gerardo Mosquera.

Jóvenes Artistas de la República Democrática Alemana y Cuba, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, La Habana and Neue Berliner Galerie im Alten Museum, Berlin, East- Germany.

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Catalogue With essay by Tonel

Patria o Muerte. Castillo de la Real Fuerza, La Habana, Cuba. Catalogue with essay by Tonel

II Bienal de Cuenca, Cuenca, Ecuador (Catalogue)

III Bienal de La Habana, La Habana, Cuba (Catalogue)

1988

Contemporary Cuban Art, Tretryakov Galler, Moscow, Soviet Union. (Catalogue)

Made in Havana: Contemporary Art from Cuba, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.

Traveled to Museum of Contemporary Art. Brisbane and Australian Center for Contemporary Art Melbourne. Catalogue with essay by Charles Merewether

No Es Solo Lo Que Ves, Facultad de Artes y Letras, Universidad de La Habana, Cuba

Raíces en Acción, Museo de Arte Carrillo Gill, México. Traveled to Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Lima, Perú; Museo de Arte Moderno, Caracas. Catalogue with essay by Gerardo Mosquera.

Segundo Encuentro de Jóvenes Artistas, Museo Provincial de Villa Clara, Santa Clara, Cuba

1987

Estrictamente Personal, Fototeca de Cuba, La Habana, Cuba

Primer Encuentro de Jóvenes Artistas, Museo Provincial de Villa Clara, Santa Clara, Cuba

I Bienal de Pintura Jaime Guasch, Barcelona, Spain. Awarded First Prize. (Catalogue)

1986

Concurso 13 de Marzo, Galería L, Habana, Cuba. Awarded First Prize in Painting.

Relevo, Instituto Superior de Arte, La Habana, Cuba

1985

Pinturas y Dibujos, Centro Provincial de Artes Plásticas y Diseño, La Habana, Cuba

IV Jornada Científica Estudiantil. Instituto Superior de Arte, La Habana, Cuba

1984

Arte en la Fábrica, La Habana, Cuba

Instituto Superior de Arte Saluda la I Bienal de La Habana, Galería Habana e Instituto Superior de Arte, La Habana

1983

My First Show, Sala Talía. La Habana, Cuba

Museum Collections

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC

Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany

Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, La Habana, Cuba

Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Monterrey, México

Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, Florida

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, California

Nassau County Museum of Art, Roslyn Harbour, New York

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Pérez Art Museum, Miami, Florida

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City

Bibliography

2022

Angeleti, Gabriella. "After \$110m Picasso sale, casino company MGM acquires on-trend contemporary works to diversify collection", *The Art Newspaper*, March 30, 2022

Nolan, Joe. "Winter Arts Guide: Visual Arts", *Nashville Scene*, January 13, 2022

2021

Trouillot, Terence. "Tomás Esson's Erotic Politics", *Frieze*, April 23, 2021

2020

Uszerowicz, Monica. "Tomás Esson's Whirling Gyroscopes of Paint", *Hyperallergic*, December 11, 2020

Garcia, Isabella Marie. "Miami Art Week 2020 Museum Exhibition Guide", *Miami New Times*, November 20, 2020.

2018

McEwen, Abigail. "Looking to Cuba's Past to Fabricate Tomorrow's Utopia", *Hyperallergic*, March 13, 2018

Regan, Sheila. "Looking Beyond History to Tell the Story of Cuban Art", *Hyperallergic*, February 20, 2018

Moffitt, Evan. "Adiós Utopia: Dreams and Deceptions in Cuban Art since 1950", *Frieze*, February 05, 2018

"Tomas Esson Wins CINTAS Award", *Cuban Arts News*, October 24, 2018

2017

Batet, Janet. "A Fertile Universe: Tomas Esson's Miami Flow", *Cuban Art News*. April 25, 2017

Riol, Rubens. "Los paisajes gentils de Tomas Esson y otras provocaciones", *El Nuevo Herald*, April 7, 2017

2009

Fox, Catherine. "Cuban exile skillfully presents a low view of human nature," *The Atlanta Journal – Constitution*, January 6, 2009

2008

Hicks, Cinque. "Tomás Esson pieces together human nature at the Hammonds House Museum", *Creative Loafing Atlanta*, December 29, 2008

Rodriguez, Alberto Brown. "EL BICHO Y EL PICHON", *Mundo Hispánico*. November 28, 2008

Michot, Emily. Video on "Giants in The City Take Over," *The Miami Herald*, December 3, 2008

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2006

Triff, Alfredo. Review on Show "Yo Soy Mi Foto": Crónicas de Nuestro Tiempo. "The Empire State Building vs. The Water Tank", *El Nuevo Herald*, December 24, 2006

Antonio Evora, José. Review on the Show "Cubanos sin fronteras: Tomás Esson y Yamel Molerio Siempre hay un ojo que te ve", *El Nuevo Herald*, June 3, 2006

Triff, Alfredo. Review on the Show "Drawing in Cuban 'Unconventional' is not the right word for Tomás Esson y Yamel Molerio", *The Sun Post*, July 21, 2006

2003

Weinstein, Joel. "A Collection to sink your teeth into Miami's Arturo Mosquera", *Art Papers*, March / April 2003

Cantor, Judy. Review on the Show "Drawing Conclusions" Curated by Nina Arias, *New Times*, January 23, 2003

Elisa Tuner. "The World's Top 200 Collectors", *Art News*, Summer 2003. p129

2001

Weinstein, Joel. Review on the Show "New Art off Cuba" Curated by José Alonso Art Gallery, *Art Papers*, July/August, 2001

1998

de Cuba, Loin. "Musée des Tapisseries". Place de L' Archevêché. Aix-en-Provence, France. ISBN. 2-905195-04-5.

Connor, Olga. "Folie en Aix", *El Nuevo Herald*, Galería Dominical, November 15, 1998

Poupeye, Veerle. "Caribbean Art", *World of Art, Thames and Hudson*, p147

1997

Weiermair, Peter. "Form und Funktion der Zeichnung heute", p.66

Morgado, Marcia. "Coleccionando arte en Miami: una obra en progreso", *Exito*, March 19, 1997

Turner, Elisa. "Museum fills in more blanks, MAM unfurls more of "Dream Collection"", *The Miami Herald*, September 24, 1997

1996

"Cuba Siglo XX: Modernidad y Sincretismo", Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, 1996

Liburt, Ellen. "Violence, Sex, Greed & Domination Pervade Brewster Art Opening", *Open Air*, October 23, 1996

1995

"Cuba La Isla Posible", Centre de Cultura Contemporànea de Barcelona, 1995

Lewis, Samella S. "Caribbean Vision. Contemporary Painting and Sculpture", *Art Services International*, 1995

1994

Camnitzer, Luis. "New Art of Cuba", *University of Texas Press*, January 1, 1994

Dobkin, Claudia. "Por el Amor al Arte", *Vogue Spain*, August 1994, p.58

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1993

- Blanc, Giulio. "Pequeña Habana Little Havana", *Poliéster, No 4*, Winter 1993, p.42
- Clary, Mike. "¡Castro, No Sex, Si!", *Los Angeles Times*. January 31, 1993, p.72
- Kapitanof, Nancy. "Cuban Expatriate Artist Paint Another View of Castro Revolution", *Los Angeles Times*, February 14, 1993, p.85
- Morera, Daniela. "Cubani a Miami Chi Sono Gli Esiliati Che Contano", *L'Uomo Vogue*, January 1993, p.294
- Rohter, Larry. "Jazz and Politics Meet Over the Key Board", *The New York Times*, May 9, 1993 p.30

1992

- Abreu, Juan. "Tomás Esson, Secreciones Vitales", *Diario Las Américas*. Miami, January 5, 1992, p.5A
- Álvarez Bravo, Armando. "Artistas Cubanos en Campaña Publicitaria", *El Nuevo Herald*, July 12, 1992, p4D. Illus: "Absolut Esson 1992" Acrylic on Canvas, 1992. Article on Absolut Freedom Campaign. (Newspaper)
- Correa, Armando. "Tres Creadores en Libertad Absoluta", *El Nuevo Herald*, July 10, 1992, p21D. Illus: Artist and article on Absolut Freedom Campaign. (Newspaper)
- Kohan, Helen. "Cuban Artists Absolutely Talented", *The Miami Herald*, July 13, 1992, p1C. Illus: Artist and review on Absolut Freedom Campaign. (Newspaper)
- Mahoney, Robert. "Latin American Art Boom", *Preferences*, Fall 1992, p30
- Marques Gonzalez, Aminda. "Dissident Cuban Artists Seek a New Vision in a New World", *The Miami Herald*, July 13, 1992, p3C. Illus: "Absolut Esson 1992" Acrylic on Canvas. (Newspaper)
- Meza, Alberto. "Publicidad o Arte: Cubanos en busca de lo absoluto", *Éxito*. July 22, 1992, p45. Illus: Absolut Esson 1992" Acrylic on Canvas. (Newspaper)
- "El Arte Como Historia". Review on Drawing Show. *Éxito*, June 24, 1992, p.50 (Newspaper)
- Montané, Diana. "Tomás Esson: Sexo, Censura y Disidencia" *Éxito*. October 14, 1992, p60. Illus: Artist and "Absolut Esson, 1992". (Newspaper - Cover)
- Marcia Morgado. "Arte Cubano Contemporáneo Atrae la Atención Nacional", *Diario Las Américas*, December 23, 1992, p3b. Illus: Artist and article on "Cuatro Que Se Fueron." (Newspaper)
- Novo, Mireya. "Miami: Nueva Meca del Arte Latinoamericano", *Éxito*, August 5, 1992, p56. Article on Latin American Art. (Newspaper)
- Palumbo, Valeria. "Comprare Latinos", *Capital*, October 1992, p194. Article on Latin American Art. (Magazine)
- Pérez, Miriam. "Coincidencias marcan obras de artistas exiliados de diferentes generaciones", *Diario Las Américas*, July 19, 1992. Review on Drawing Show. (Newspaper)
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- Valdés, Karen. "The Drawing Show", *Art Papers, Atlanta*. November / December 1992, p. 42
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1991

- Aba, Judit. "Senki Sem Sziget", *PM*, April 1991, p.48
- Balmaseda, Liz. "Castro's Convertibles", *El Nuevo Herald and The Miami Herald Tropic Magazine*, April 14, 1991. p.8
- Cherson, Samuel. "Arte y Protesta en la Cuba de Hoy", *El Nuevo Día*, August 4, 1991, p.12
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- Turner, Elisa. Review on "¡Que Calor! Show", *The Miami Herald*, December 11, 1991, p.5D
- Welling, Dolf. "Artistieke Scharreleieren" *Trouw*, June 8, 1991.
- Whitefield, Mimi. "U.S. Lifts Ban on Import Sale of Cuban Art", *The Miami Herald*, March 28, 1991, p.23A
- Cox, Petey. "Miami Offers the Best Environment for These Artists", *Miami Today*, June 4, 1991. P.8C

1990

- Heitlingler, Paulo. "De Cubaanse Renaissance", *Art I*, September 1990, p.97
- Álvarez Bravo, Armando. "Artistas Jóvenes de Cuba en Boston", *El Nuevo Herald*, November 18, 1990, p.1D
- Sánchez, Osvaldo. "Kuuban Kuvataide, Utopia Ja Spektaakkeli", *Taide*, Finland. March 1990, p.41
- Silver, Joanne. "Castro's Children", *The Boston Herald*, November 16, 1990, p.S12
- "Cuban Artist Candidly Critize Rigidity and Censorship" *The Guardian*, November 7, 1990, p.10
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- Temin, Christine. "Cuban Art: A long trip over a short distance", *The Boston Globe*, November 4, 1990, p.B1

1989

- Armanda, Sebestyen. "In-Fidelities", *New Statesman & Society*, October 27, 1989, p.46

1988

- "A Tarro Partido, Pinturas de Tomás Esson", *Cartelera / Revolución y Cultura*. January 13, 1988, p.3

1987

- Eligio (Tonel), Antonio. "Trece Que Fueron Uno", *Revolución y Cultura*. July 1987, p.49

1986

- Mosquera, Gerardo. "Mitología y Vulgaridad", *Revolución y Cultura*, September 1986, p.78