

**100+ DEGREES  
IN THE SHADE**

A Survey of South Florida Art



## Artist Listing

T.J. Ahearn  
 Ahol Sniffs Glue  
 Natalia Arias  
 Kevin Arrow  
 Eddie Arroyo  
 Daniel Arsham  
 Bhakti Baxter  
 José Bedía  
 Loriel Beltran  
 Herman Bas  
 Carlos Belancourt  
 Birds are Nice  
 Francie Bishop Good  
 Bleeding Palm  
 Pip Brant  
 Jenny Brillhart  
 Carol K. Brown  
 Leah Brown  
 Timothy Buwalda  
 Autumn Casey  
 Martin Casuso  
 Robert Chambers  
 Western Charles  
 Matthew Chernoff  
 Clifton Childree  
 Lou Anne Colodny  
 Elisabeth Condon  
 Alejandro Contreras  
 William Cordova  
 Gina Cunningham  
 Christian Curnel  
 Julie Davidow  
 John DeFaro  
 Cal Del Buono / Refemme  
 Ivan Depeña  
 Mark Diamond  
 Reniel Diaz  
 Raphael Domenech  
 Dana Donaty  
 Sebastian Duncan-Portuondo  
 Christian Durán  
 Harlan Erskine  
 Tomas Esson  
 Phillip Estlund  
 Orlando Estrada  
 Jacqueline Falcone  
 Susan Feliciano

FeCUP  
 Liz Ferrer  
 Virginia Fifield  
 Naomi Fisher  
 Dara Friedman  
 Gonzalo Fuenmayor  
 Florencio Gelabert  
 AdrienneRose Gionta  
 Jacin Giordano  
 Luis Gispert  
 Mauricio Gonzalez  
 Robin Griffiths  
 Adler Guerrier  
 Mark Handforth  
 Henning Haupt  
 Jason Hedges  
 Quisqueya Henriquez  
 Douglas Hoekzema  
 Horro-Sapiens  
 Peter Diesen Hosfeld  
 Kathleen Hudspeth  
 Robert Huff  
 Carol Jazzar  
 Brookhart Jonquill  
 Julie Kahn  
 Eurydice Kamyselli  
 Bruce Kates  
 William Keddell  
 Dina Krapp  
 Ernesto Kunde  
 Jan and Dave  
 Don Lambert  
 Leila A. Leder-Kremer  
 Susan Lee-Chun  
 Joshua Levine  
 Karelle Levy  
 Francesco LoCastro  
 Justin H. Long  
 Christian Lopez-Miro  
 Michael Loveland  
 Jean-Paul Mallozzi  
 Pepe Mar  
 Jillian Mayer  
 Jordan Massengale  
 David McCauley  
 Monica McGivern  
 Robert McKnight

Daniel Milewski  
 Ruben Millares  
 Beatriz Montevearo  
 Hugo Montoya  
 Gean Moreno  
 Daniel Newman  
 Rick Newton  
 Jessy Nite  
 Jeffrey Noble  
 Glexis Novoa  
 Lori Nozick  
 Brandon Opalka  
 Martin Oppel  
 Ernesto Oroza  
 Gustavo Oviedo  
 Raul Perdomo  
 Emilio Perez  
 Gavin Perry  
 Christina Pettersson  
 Kerry Phillips  
 Sri Prabha  
 Ralph Provisero  
 Brian Reedy  
 Tao Rey  
 Karen Rifas  
 Johnny Robles  
 Lisa Rockford  
 Bert Rodriguez  
 Cristina Lei Rodriguez  
 Leyden Rodriguez-Casanova  
 Michael Rodriguez  
 David Rohn  
 Gustavo Román  
 Arnaldo Rossello  
 Sebastian Ruiz  
 Sarah Michelle Rupert  
 Raymond Saa  
 Samantha Salzinger  
 Oliver Sanchez  
 Kenny Scharf  
 Tom Scicluna  
 Barron Sherer  
 Onajide Shabaka  
 Magnus Sigurdarson  
 Tawnie Silva  
 Alette Simmons-Jimenez  
 Diego Singh

Magnus Sodamin  
 Jérôme Solinaud  
 Misaël Soto  
 Jen Stark  
 Karen Starosta-Gilinski  
 Katie Stirman  
 Sara Stites  
 Alex Sweet  
 TM Sisters  
 Kristen Thiele  
 Robert Thiele  
 Mette Tommerup  
 Alex Trimino  
 Frances Trombly  
 Stephan Tugrul  
 Odalis Valdivieso  
 Angela Vailiella  
 Marcos Vailiella  
 Michael Vasquez  
 Sergio Vega  
 Tom Virgin  
 Wendy Wischer  
 Michelle Weinberg  
 Jill Weisberg  
 Purvis Young



## South Florida Art: a brief slanted history since the 80s

By Sandra Schulman

Follow the artists.

That is the mantra to find any new up and coming hood, scene, movement, money and ultimately, art history. After the crash and burn of NYC's East Village gallery scene, where I had a gallery that showed some heavy hitters 20 years too soon, I, like many of my restless fellow gentrified outta town art heathens, fled the brutal winters of Avenues A through D and Streets 1st through 14th, and landed in surreal, sunshiny South Beach. A place we had only seen sitting huddled in front of TVs in our tenements on the neon, sockless show *Miami Vice*, it looked like paradise – Art Deco buildings on the ocean with rents as low as a few hundred dollars. An empty beach with warm, wavy water. Cheap Cuban joints with hearty rice and bean meals that replaced the pirogues and bagels of Alphabet City. Storefronts begging for a new start. A closed road mall that was retro and ripe, so deserted you could roll a bowling ball down it and not hit a soul.

It was Heaven.  
It was Hell.

Crime and Marielitos. No air-conditioning. Crack and dope and shadows in the alleys. Scarface in the streets.

But... follow the artists. This is where they went. Filling up Espanola Way, taking over space on Washington Avenue, squatting in abandoned Mediterranean mansions on Biscayne Bay. It was a wild west for art and artists, show downs and shoot 'em ups were nightly Kimosabee.

Howard Davis' Artifacts Art Group had already staked their turf, mounting multimedia, fly by night installations at the club Fire & Ice, the Wet Paint House, Warsaw and Club Nu. They made parade floats out of sawed off trucks, lit houses on fire, decorated the discos and threw endless parties in parking garages. Their commotion landed them in *Andy Warhol's Interview Magazine* by the mid-80s with a multi-page spread that touted this burgeoning art paradise and its heat crazed, paint brush wielding inhabitants.

Lincoln Road opened their own Art Center, giving artists both communal exhibition space and individual studios. Some branched out into their own larger spaces like Carlos Betancourt's Imperfect Utopia that found the stupidly handsome, budding painter painting in the front, living in the back, and entertaining the rich, powerful and merely curious that braved the early semi-mean street days of Miami Beach. Betancourt, represented in this survey and book, has become a world class artist whose colorful, surreal, unclassifiable mashup of slick photography, installations and self portraiture is collected and exhibited worldwide.

Kevin Arrow, a *New Times Mastermind Award* winner, started in the Espanola Way Art Center painting mandalas, working with Artifacts and curating space



for developers like artist supporter Craig Robins. He zeroed in on slides and projectors and other out-dated retro media, collecting them with an insane hoarder's zeal and now finds himself the archivist at the new Science Museum creating shows as well as exhibiting his projected work and helming OMM - Obscure Media Miami, an analog gearhead paradise.

Far from the shimmering sands and candy colored buildings, no wilderness was wider than Overtown, where ex-con self-taught street artist Purvis Young was grabbing mattresses, doors and window frames off the curb and turning them into priceless folk art he toled around in shopping carts. His strange new worlds were learning with mysterious angels, blackened horses and gritty urban cityscapes from which there was no escape. Young made ghetto heads turn when mega collectors Don and Mera Rubell - kin to the late Studio 54 disco kingpin - bought the entire 3,000 piece contents of his studio in one fell swoop. Money and media attention made for a messy end, but Young's work lives on in his own museum in Fort Lauderdale, run by Larry Clemons.

The Bakehouse Art Complex bravely took over an abandoned bakery in 1986, providing studio space for those off the beach, in Miami's Wholesale Garment District. Monthly open studio nights and group shows gave the arts community another outpost in the tropic wilderness.

Over in gritty Wynwood, pioneering gallerist Brook Dorisch set up shop and then Locust Projects, a venue dedicated to site-specific installation art, was established by artists Westen Charles, Cooper, and Elizabeth Withstanley. Gean Moreno was their first program director and set the tone for an experimental aesthetic that endures. Dennis Scholl was Locust's champion, helping to establish them as a non-profit while founder of their board of directors. Subsequently, over several years, many galleries flocked to this bleak neighborhood, transforming it into a colorful, cacophonous destination. Tony Goldman, a New Yorker who helped transform Soho, and then re-discovered South Beach's real estate and historic value back in the 80s, saw some blank warehouse walls and had a vision of murals plastered block to block. To make that happen he tapped art circus ringmaster Jeffrey Deitch to bring in the boys and girls who think and draw big. Soon they spray painted the hell outta the hood, and threw down bar/restaurants, studio space and hipster retail stores, all up against the glorious new walls. It's now a victim of its own success, much like South Beach, with artists being driven out once again.

Collectors like the Rubells, along with Debra and Dennis Scholl, Rosa and Carlos De La Cruz, Craig Robins, and Ella Cisneros began opening their own spaces in humongous buildings - some of them larger than MOCA and the Bass Museum.

These globe trotting, art buying collectors all set the wheels in motion for Art Basel to come to Miami, bringing a whole new level of sophistication, money, reputation, dozens of art fairs spun out from Art Basel Miami Beach, like twisters Art Museum, was transformed, amid some controversy, into the Perez Art Museum Miami. It's architecturally innovative structure was erected on the bank

of Biscayne Bay 2 years ago, defying hurricanes, floods and naysayers, bringing in Chinese rabble rouser Ai Wei Wei as its opening act.

So what now, kids?  
Follow the artists.

Don't tell anyone but they're moving to Little River, another mean street warehouse train tracked community ready for a new chance. The pioneers this time include developer Avra Jain, together with her New York based associates, who scooped up the majority of MilMo motels along Biscayne Boulevard, including the crown jewel Vagabond Hotel with its dolphin fountain, mermaid mural in the pool and retro, fab neon signage. Saving them all from their trampy past as a red light drug district, Jain is invested in reshaping this primarily Haitian community, providing an ever expanding playground of bars, restaurants, galleries and other trendy establishments, in her words "curating the neighborhood." One can even eat fried grasshoppers in her restaurant.

The future is so bright we better wear shades. And follow the ones already packing to leave Little River.

*Sandra Schulman is an arts writer and film producer. She co-founded two galleries in NYC in the 1980s - Spiritual America and 303 Gallery, her book on Spiritual America was released Spring 2015. She has curated art exhibitions for galleries and museums in New York City, Los Angeles, Joshua Tree and Southampton. Schulman is currently an Arts columnist for WPB Magazine, writes for HamptonstHub.com and is working as a consultant on various art and film projects in development.*

*Her work has appeared in Billboard, Variety, Rolling Stone, Entertainment Weekly, Ocean Drive, The New York Daily News, Country Music Magazine, and News From Indian Country. She was an entertainment columnist for the South Florida Sun-Sentinel for 8 years.*

*Part Cherokee, she has become a spokesperson for Native American causes on TV and radio. Raised in New York, she has worked in NYC, Miami Beach, Los Angeles, Joshua Tree, and Nashville, Tennessee.*

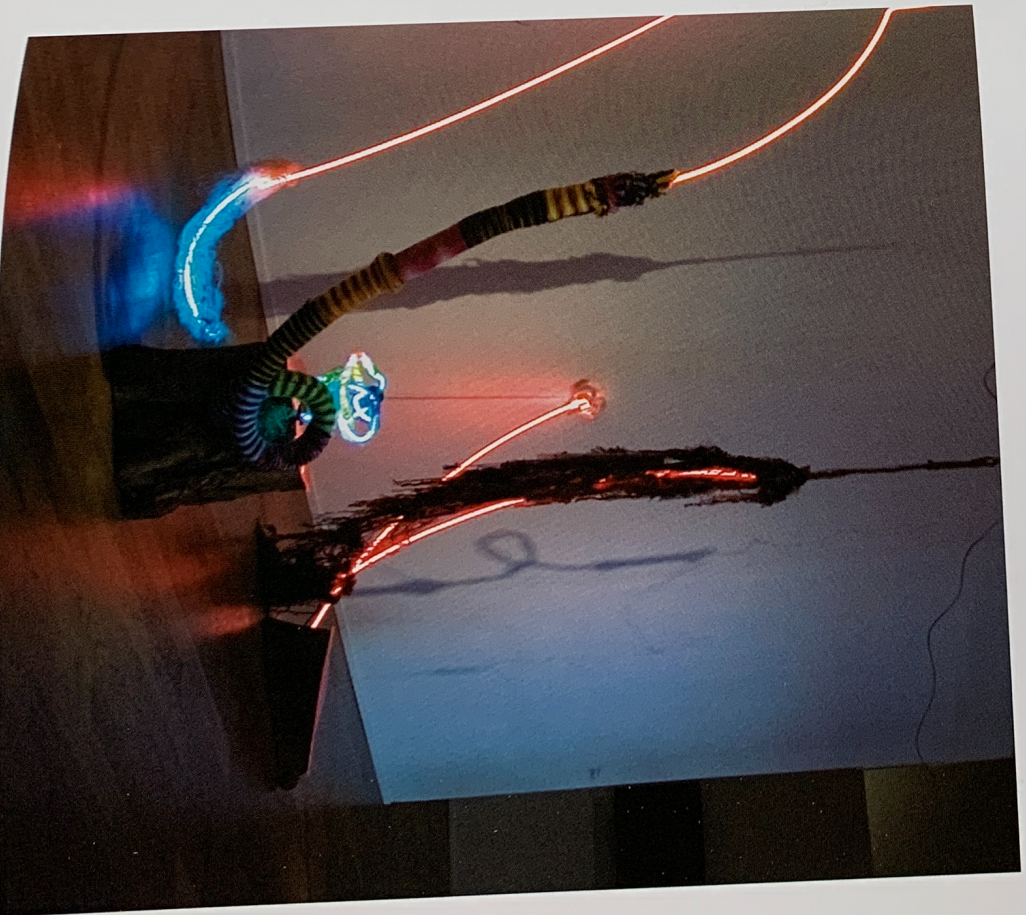




Carlos Betancourt  
*The Flash of Objects and Re-interpreting Shattered Color IV, for L. K.*, Digital  
photograph printed with pigmented ink on fine art paper, 64 x 51 in., Courtesy the  
artist and Walter Otero Contemporary

Alex Trimino

*Totem Feast, 2015*, Neon lights, plexiglas, knittings, crochet, fibers, and found  
objects, Dimensions variable





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