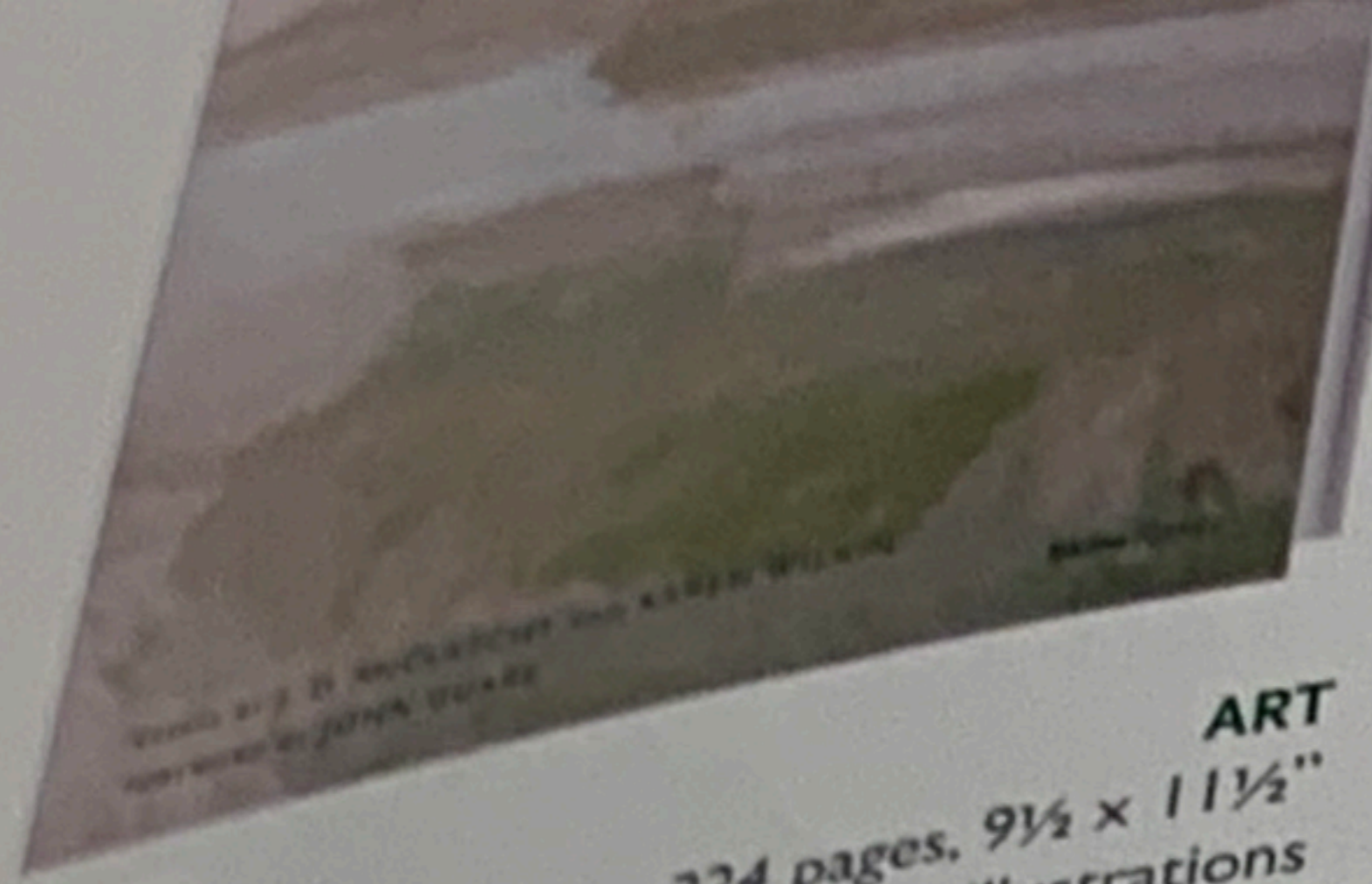


RIZZOLI  
FALL 2015





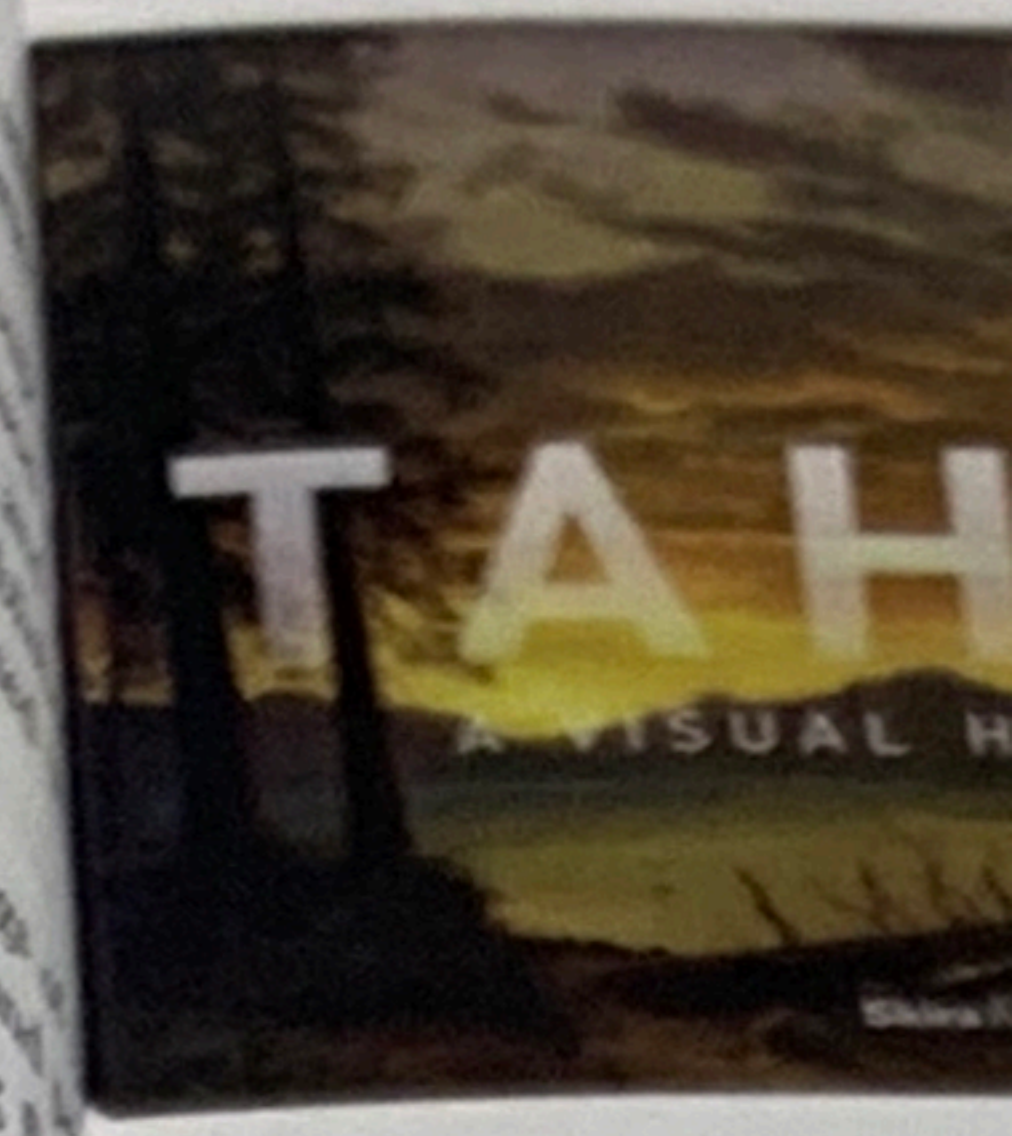
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## Carlos Betancourt

### IMPERFECT UTOPIA

ESSAYS BY PAUL LASTER AND ROBERT FARRIS THOMPSON  
 FOREWORD BY RICHARD BLANCO

**A painter, photographer, and mixed-media artist, Carlos Betancourt and his seminal studio, Imperfect Utopia, are credited with helping to launch the Miami art scene in the 1990s.**

Carlos Betancourt's oeuvre is a lush explosion of radiant, eccentric color which he explores the kaleidoscope (multiracial, multilingual, transcultural Caribbean culture. His work alludes to issues of memory, beauty, and identity and he bends the lines between art, photography, and nature in his photographs, collages, installations, and conceptual pieces.

His studio, Imperfect Utopia, helped to create a contemporary arts environment in Miami, challenging the existing arts establishment. It served as an underground address of the artistic melting pot that was Miami Beach in the '80s, visited by some of the most important artists and writers of the day.

This exuberant volume explores Betancourt's complete body of work, with images and texts by art critics Paul Laster and Robert Farris Thompson.

**Paul Laster** is a writer, editor, independent curator, artist, and lecturer. Robert Farris Thompson is one of America's most prominent scholars of African art and the Colonel John Trumbull Professor of the History of Art at Yale University, where he is one of the longest-serving alumni. **Richard Blum** is a presidential inaugural poet of the United States.

