

GUERRA DE LA PAZ



Red Pom Pom, 94 x 96 x 68 cm, mixed media, 2011

Guerra de la Paz is the composite name of Cuban born, Miami based artist duo Alain Guerra (born 1968) and Neraldo de la Paz (born 1955), who have been collaborating since 1996. They primarily create sculptures from clothes; whether new or old, handmade or manufactured. Socks, shirts, pants, dresses, sweaters, and skirts become a forest of tree trunks, family portraits or magical creatures. Their work consists of seemingly limitless numbers of garments, each telling the story of its prior owner and effectively mourning their losses.

Deemed obsolete – the garments are a testament to the passing of time and the realization of a modernity fading away – their roles are redefined when they become components in their compositions. The recycling of the clothing comments on material excesses, while the fusion of the articles presents the notion of a society that, in spite of heralding the individual, is ultimately interconnected and whole. Guerra de la Paz use a visual language that conveys a universal message; a cross-cultural humanist look at dichotomies and parallels, mixing classicism with the general consensus of the day and iconic imagery with a complexity of identities.

Guerra de la Paz are often visually stimulated by their immediate surroundings. Their neighborhood has been the catalyst for much of their work – a paradox where gritty industrial warehouses cohabitate with lush tropical vegetation. Their close proximity to the Pepe businesses that once thrived in Little Haiti has been a major source of inspiration. Gaining access to an overabundance of discarded clothing – relics that once helped define an individual's personality and communally speak of environmental issues, mass consumption, and disposability – opened the doors for them to working with garments as a material. They often see themselves as vehicles guided by the garment's essence and silent histories.

GALERIE KASHYA HILDEBRAND

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GUERRA DE LA PAZ

Alain Guerra & Neraldo de la Paz born in Cuba, in 1968 & 1955
live and work in Miami, FL., USA

EDUCATION

- 1978 Neraldo de la Paz BFA, Drawing / Painting, Northern Illinois University, USA
1992-93 Alain Guerra School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA
1991-92 Art Institute of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, USA
1979-84 Center For Expressive Arts, Miami, FL., USA

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 Barbed, Praxis International Art Miami, Miami, USA
Follow the Leader, Solo Site Specific Installation, Craft Alliance Grand Center Gallery – The Kransberg Arts Center, St. Louis, MO, USA
Manto, Big Screen Plaza, New York, USA
Manto, Intersection Box 16, Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space, Prague, Czech Republic
Bonsai Couture, Galerie Kashya Hildebrand, Zurich, Switzerland
2010 No Money No Glory: Francis Acea – Guerra de la Paz (2 solo projects), Holster Projects, London, UK
2010 Home – a collaborative project between Guerra de la Paz and ARTLab, Jack Olson Gallery, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, USA
2009 Beyond The Daily Life: Guerra de la Paz – Teresa Diehl (2 solo projects), curated by Julian Navarro, Center for Visual Communication, Miami, FL, USA
2009 Travelogue, Artane, Istanbul, Turkey
2009 Otherworld, Carol Jazzar Gallery, Miami, FL, USA
2008 Six Thai Trannies in Heaven, Elsewhere Artist Collaborative, Greensboro, NC, permanent Installation, USA
2008 The Green Zone, Daneyal Mahmood Gallery, New York, NY, USA
2007 Flower Children, Carol Jazzar Gallery, Miami, FL, USA
2006 Oasis, The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, Michigan Ave Galleries, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
2006 Guerra de la Paz, Jack the Pelican Presents, Brooklyn, NY, USA
2005 Teaser, Liquid Blue Gallery, Miami, FL, USA
2004 The Four Seasons, Art and Culture Center of Hollywood, Hollywood, FL, USA
2004 Seven Deadly Sins, The Buena Vista Building, Miami Design District, Miami, FL, USA
2002 Overflow, African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, Miami, FL, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 Morbid Curiosity: the Richard Harris, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, USA
2011 Coming Out of the Closet, Curated by Viki D. Thompson Wylder, Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science, Tallahassee, FL, USA
Aleatorios: Una Perspectiva del Videoarte en Venezuela, Curator - Maria Teresa Govea Meoz, Museo de Art Contemporaneo, Caracas, Venezuela,
Cuba Now, 21c Museum, Louisville, KY, USA
Time|Behind the Vision, Curated by Julian Navarro, Praxis International Miami, FL, USA
2010 New Work Miami 2010, Curated by Peter Boswell and Rene Morales, Miami At Museum, Miami, FL, USA
Don't Piss on Me and Tell Me It's Raining, curated by Bad at Sports, Apex Art, New York, NY, USA
Global/National: The Order of Chaos, curated by Papo Colo and Jeanette Ingberan, Exit Art, New York, NY, USA
2009 In Stitches, Curated by Beth Rudin DeWoody, Leila Taghinla - Milani Heller Gallery, NYC, NY, USA
Dress Codes: Clothing As Metaphor, Curated by Barbara J Bloemink, Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY, USA
Abstract America: New Painting and Sculpture, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
2008 OF THE CLOTH, Curated by Douglas Ferrari, Shore Institute of the Contemporary Arts, Longbranch, NJ, USA
2005 Cintas Fellowship Exhibition, Curated by Gabriela Rangel, Americas Society, New York, NY, USA
2003 Between Art and Life: From Joseph Cornell to Gabriel Orosco, Miami Art Museum, Miami, FL, USA
2000 Les Chemical Carnales, Curated by Ed Paschke, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL, USA

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