

Samuel Riera

In 1999 Samuel Riera graduates from the San Alejandro National Academy of Fine Arts in the specialty of Engraving. The following year, he continues his studies at the Higher Institute of Art (ISA by its Spanish acronym), pursuing a degree in Graphic Art. Between 2001-2006 Riera serves as Professor of Engraving in San Alejandro.

In 2005 he is awarded the Tamarind Institute Scholarship (Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA), dedicated to lithographic studies. In the same year he is granted the Grand Prize for Graphic Art, sponsored by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation and the Embassy of Spain in Cuba.

From 2012 on, Riera develops his open atelier RIERA STUDIO, with the objective of creating an autonomous space for dialogue, diagnosis and cooperation amongst alternative discourses dealing with Cuban art, supporting primarily the presence and development of peripheral (outsider) art beyond the centrist current.

Since 2013, he creates and organizes Art Brut Project Cuba, aimed at building an action programme throughout Cuba that allows to recognize, catalogue, support and advertise the work of Cuban Art Brut creators. In this sense, Art Brut Project Cuba is an independent project that undertakes actions parallel to the Cuban artistic mainstream.

Samuel Riera has taken part in more than one hundred collective exhibitions in Cuba and abroad. Currently he exhibits his work at the permanent collection of the First Museum of Cuban Art in Vienna, Austria, as well as in the collection of the New York University. His work is also exhibited in personal collections in Spain, Denmark, USA, Japan, Venezuela, Costa Rica, South Africa and Cuba. Among others, his works have

been exhibited in: Wilfredo Lam Center of Contemporary Art (Havana, Cuba); Casa de las Américas (Havana, Cuba); Visual Arts Development Center (Havana, Cuba); Center of Contemporary Art (Mérida, Mexico), Museum of Contemporary Art and Design (San José, Costa Rica); Salon International of Paris, Gallery Nesle Espace (France); Grand Foundation León Jiménez (Santiago de los Caballeros, República Dominicana); Espacio Aglutinador Gallery (Havana, Cuba); Art Museum of the Americas (Washington DC, USA); National Gallery of Honduras; Museum of Contemporary Art of Taipei (Taiwan).

Presently, his artistic work moves fluently through a variety of techniques, encompassing Graphic Arts, Painting, Video Art, Cinema and Installation. He has imparted conferences on Video Art in Cuba, Venezuela and Mexico and participated in international festivals such as the Festival of Alternative Cinema (Mexico), the Festival of Young Filmmakers (Cuba), the Low Budget Film Festival of Gibara (Cuba) and the II International Festival of Cuban Cinema in Munich (Germany).

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