

LUXE
BEAT MAGAZINE

**DECONSTRUCTION: A REORDERING OF LIFE,
POLITICS AND ART**



Opening Celebration with the Artists:

Saturday, July 14 ([4:00]-7:00 p.m.)

On view through September 30

To kick off its tenth anniversary celebrations, the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU presents the premiere of Deconstruction: A Reordering of Life, Politics and Art featuring the work of twelve Miami artists:

Eddie Arroyo, Zachary Balber, Frida Baranek, Christopher Carter, Leyden Rodriguez-Casanova, Yanira Collado, Gonzalo Fuenmayor, Pepe Mar, Glexis Novoa, Sandra Ramos, Jamilah Sabur and Frances Trombly.

“Some say Miami’s vibrant art scene can be overshadowed by the art fairs that descend upon our destination every December, and the question looms large: what is the real visual arts landscape like in Miami during the other 51 weeks of the year? As this city experiences a major growth boom, working artists in Miami have a broadening range of opportunities and challenges,” said Dr. Jordana Pomeroy, the Director of the Frost Art Museum FIU. “For this major exhibition celebrating the 10th anniversary of our spectacular building, these twelve Miami artists boldly confront current global issues.”

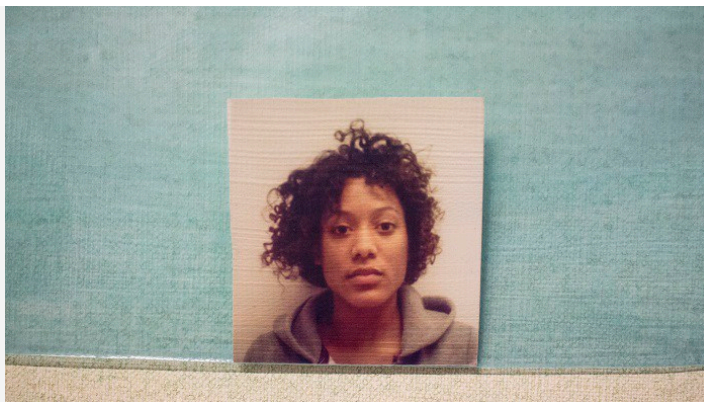


Julia Tuttle (Hidden Spirits) (Zachary Balber, 2017), courtesy of the artist and Spinello Projects
All of the artists in the exhibition live and work in Miami.

These 12 artists hail from all over the country and the world, and now make Miami their home. Many have been exhibited at some of the most prominent museums and galleries nationwide and throughout Europe, Latin America and Asia.

These works examine the theme of deconstruction – from current events in the frenetic social media stream to cross-cultural awakenings these artists have experienced in Miami. The subtitle of the exhibition is derived from prophetic messages in Guy Debord's 1967 book *Society and Spectacle* that warned about a future world where social interactions become too influenced by images that would prevent us from direct personal contact.

More than fifty years ago, Debord foreshadowed our reliance on isolating hand-held technology and the twenty-four-hour news cycle that dominates our times. The different ways these artists interrogate deconstruction in their artworks open a window allowing us to step back and take a long, hard look at our world today.



A Declaration (Ibine-Ela-Acu), detail (Jamilah Sabur, 2018), courtesy of the artist

The opening reception is Saturday, July 14 ([4:00] – 6:00 p.m.), and on the same date the museum debuts a new exhibition showcasing its permanent collection and recent acquisitions gifted to the Frost for its 10th anniversary. The museum is located at 10975 S.W. 17 Street, on the campus of Florida International University.

“As we recognize the 10th anniversary of this architectural jewel-in-the-crown, the Frost Art Museum FIU is pleased to dedicate our Grand Galleries to Miami-based artists,” said Dr. Jordana Pomeroy, the museum’s Director.

“When this beautiful building was constructed on campus ten years ago, few could have imagined the cultural beacon the Frost Art Museum FIU would become for our community. Now, as the museum enters its next decade we continue elevating our mission to new heights: helping to define Miami’s arts and culture evolution through a global perspective that celebrates the vision of Florida International University,” adds Dr. Jordana Pomeroy.



Pictured above is a previous installation by Pepe Mar, titled *Man of the Night* at Locust Projects (photo courtesy of David Castillo Gallery). Mar will create a new, large-scale installation for this exhibition at the Frost Art Museum FIU consisting of painted fabric. He will place two paintings on the fabric by the late Craig Coleman (aka Varla), a well-known figure in the South Beach arts scene during the late 1980s and early 1990s who died tragically of complications related to AIDS/HIV in 1995. One of the paintings Mar will use includes the text “I will not die,” created by Coleman shortly before his death.

**FOUR OF THESE MIAMI ARTISTS WILL CREATE
NEW WORKS FOR THIS EXHIBITION
CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF**

THE FROST ART MUSEUM FIU: CHRISTOPHER CARTER, YANIRA COLLADO, GONZALO FUENMAYOR AND PEPE MAR.

Gonzalo Fuenmayor will create a monumental charcoal drawing with a total width of 20 feet, titled Happy Hour.

Pepe Mar will create a large-scale site-specific installation that is an homage to the late artist Craig Coleman, who died tragically of complications related to AIDS/HIV in 1995. Coleman is fondly remembered for his drag alter ego Varla from South Beach's renaissance years of the late 1980s and early 1990s.



This new exhibition is Amy Galpin's curatorial debut at the Frost, and showcases her extensive studio visits throughout Miami after recently being selected as the museum's new Chief Curator.

“These twelve celebrated Miami artists are keenly aware of the world we are living in,” said Amy Galpin, PhD., the Chief Curator of the Frost Art Museum FIU. “Their mutual starting point is Miami itself—as their artistic home and creative community, Miami serves as the catalyst for this new exhibition.”

“By deconstructing and re-ordering objects and imagery in disparate ways, they disrupt our conventional ways of seeing, opening our eyes to new possibilities,” adds the Curator of this exhibition, Amy Galpin.

Deconstruction: A Reordering of Life, Politics and Art features more than 20 works including acrylic on canvas, digital C- prints, found objects, photography, mixed media, engraving and installations.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

PEPE MAR



Pepe Mar is creating new work (sample shown is a detail from a past installation at Locust Projects), courtesy of the artist and David Castillo Gallery, photo by WorldRedEye

Pepe Mar (b. 1977) hails originally from Mexico and lives in Miami. He is known for his sculptural collages, featuring distinctively bright colors and his creative use of source materials from pop culture and ancient mythologies. His works have developed an immediately recognizable that comes across as sinister, whimsical and exuberant – with frenetic energy. The artist draws his inspiration from his passions for music, fashion, clubbing and shopping. He creates explosive, dazzling collages and mixed-media sculptures and installations that exploring the excesses of contemporary consumer culture. Much of the material for his work comes from thrift stores, packaging, and advertisements.

He received his BFA from the California College of Arts in San Francisco, and his MFA from Florida International University in Miami. Mar’s work has been exhibited nationally, including solo and group exhibitions at: David Castillo Gallery, Miami; Freight + Volume, New York; Hanna Gallery, Tokyo;

Gavin Brown Enterprise, New York; Faena Forum, Miami Beach; New Arts Project, London; and the Nada Art Fair. His work is included in major collections in the U.S., Europe, and Latin America including public collections such as the ICA Miami and Perez Art Museum Miami.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

One of the largest free-standing art museums in Florida, the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University was founded in 1977 and is the Smithsonian Affiliate in Miami. The museum's new lakeside building debuted in 2008, designed by Yann Weymouth (the chief of design on the I.M. Pei Grand Louvre Project), and this year celebrates its 10th anniversary. With 46,000 square feet of energy efficient exhibition, storage, and programming space, the museum was honored with LEED silver certification.

The museum's mission is three-fold: to be a campus resource for the entire FIU community; to offer interdisciplinary training in the arts for the next generation of artists and art historians; and to serve as a premier cultural destination for the residents of Miami, and the 15 million visitors to one of the world's most vibrant cultural destinations – home to global cultural events including Art Basel.

The Frost offers programming that complements its exhibitions with a wide range of educational initiatives. Admission to the museum is always free. The Frost is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is located at 10975 SW 17 Street. Open Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., and Sunday noon-5:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays and most legal holidays. The Sculpture Park is open every day. More information at frost.fiu.edu or 305-348-2890.