

Inside the artist's studio

VICTORIA STAPLEY-BROWN

Miami-based painters, sculptors and videographers share their workspaces, from a riverside lair to a living sketchbook

6th December 2017 09:00 GMT

The artist's studio "is central to an artist's myth and the way that we come to understand the work of art and its meaning in society", says Alex Gartenfeld, the deputy director and chief curator of the Institute of Contemporary Art Miami (ICA). The museum opened its new permanent home on Friday 1 December with the group exhibition The Everywhere Studio, with around 100 works from the 1950s to today that explore the meaning of this space. Here, some Miami-based artists reflect on what the studio means to them and their work.



Courtesy of David Castillo Gallery

Susan Lee-Chun: "I see the studio as a live sketchbook, an archival space of the self, that I enter and [where I] attempt to make sense of ideas coming into fruition in my mind. At moments, it functions as a space of production, thought and chaos."



Chris Hernandez; Courtesy of David Castillo Gallery

Pepe Mar: "My practice in sculpture and painting—which revolves around the processes of collage, assemblage and printing—makes it essential [to] have a studio... I have to have the space to collect objects from around the world, which may need to be housed for years until their best use comes to me with specific works."



Adler Guerrier; Courtesy of David Castillo Gallery

Adler Guerrier: "Within the studio, thinking is fluidly informed by current concerns, recently finished works, much older works, books and magazines, visitors, fellow neighbouring artists in the [ArtCenter South Florida] studio building, the quality of light coming in the window, the weather, and sometimes, pedestrian traffic on Lincoln Road."



Alex Markow

Jillian Mayer: "Yes, it is important to see things and to travel, but it vital to have dedicated space to return to and digest all that you have seen. Artist studios become incubation spaces, workshops, and meditative refuges from the world."