

Scene

A HIDDEN GEM

A MIAMI ART ICON PRESENTS A LIGHTEARTED LOVE LETTER TO THE PATRICIA & PHILLIP FROST ART MUSEUM FIU. BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN

Although Miami's famous Art Basel was canceled this past December, many can still celebrate contemporary art at the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum FIU with its new exhibit, *Tesoro: Pepe Mar's Love Letter to the Frost*. The Frost Art Museum at Florida International University is one of the largest museums in Florida and holds hidden gems such as *Tesoro* and many others. The museum's mission is to be a campus resource for the entire FIU community, offer interdisciplinary training in the arts for the next generation of artists, and serve as the primary cultural destination for Miami. Pepe Mar—a cultivated artist showcased at the museum—marries a broad range of visual references and personal obsessions combining art, fashion, queer history and Mexican culture through his exhibit, *Tesoro*. Mar's collection of art from Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australia and Europe can be viewed as treasures and gifts to the public. "I wanted to make a collage of the collection as an extension of my artistic practice to create new definitions for the objects on view and encourage unexpected connections throughout the installation," says Mar. 10975 SW 17th St., Miami, frost.fiu.edu; @frostartmuseum



The collection is organized visually through thematic chapters such as Theater of the City; Mirror, Mirror; Procession; and Cabinet of Curiosities. *Tesoro* highlights masks, ceramics and paintings by René Portocarrero, Manuel Mendive, Thornton Dial and Purvis Young.