



pop@o part • museo de las américa s • sala 3 cuartel de Ballaja viejo san juan
pop @ o.p.art
7 diciembre 1999 - 15 enero 2000 • apertura 6 pm • martes 7 de diciembre 1999 • www.fixie.com/o part.html

menú



The Organization of Puerto Rican Artists (OpArt, Inc.) is pleased to present its third exhibition titled "Pop, PR&Op Art," an exciting and meaningful accomplishment realized by the cooperative and dedicated spirit of Puerto Rican artists who seek venues to showcase their work. For the first time, the exhibition will be seen globally on the world-wide web at trixel.com/opart.html.

"Pop, PR&Op Art" presents 17 artists whose artwork reflect the effects of our contemporary visual culture as well as the influence of politics and mass media: advertising, television and the appropriation a variety of visual sources. These artists, many of whom were born during the height of the 1960s Pop Art movement, continue to re-interpret a traditional Puerto Rican iconography thereby affirming a Puerto Rican identity in the midst of shifting historical events.

Many of the works address a variety of spiritual and material concerns including industry and commerce, cultural pride and posterity, personal and political freedom, and truth faced with rich, multi-layered histories. OpArt expanded the organization's mission this year by inviting leading Puerto Rican curators, Papo Colo, Co-Founder and Curator of Exit Art, Marysol Nieves, Senior Curator of The Bronx Museum of the Arts and Yasmine Ramirez, Adjunct Curator of El Museo del Barrio to review artists' slides and offer insight. This new and critical process advances the professional development of the artists and we thank them for their openness, time and generosity.



Carlos Aponte "Flags"

"My Flags question the status and relationship of Puerto Rico as a colony of the United States."



Cybelle Cartagena Romanacce "Pelucas" oil on canvas 60" x 60"

"La peluca representa en mi obra la existencia liberada de la dependencia humana, un objeto amorfo de dimensiones ambiguas."



Javier Cintrón Nuyorican Soul Series [I, II, & III], 1999 Mixed-media 40" x 48"

"Mi obra representa la iconografía del idioma y lenguaje visual que une a dos islas y rinde homenaje a los puertorriqueños en Nueva York."



José Luis Cortés "Juan Rivera" 1999 Acrylic on Newsprint 16" x 13 1/2"

"The nexus of material and theme meld in my work to reference the disappearance of marginalized and fringe cultures in New York City."



James De La Vega Untitled 1999 Installations Tape on concrete and a variety of surfaces

"Mi obra es un dialogo constante con la gente; interrumpe su espacio y le esfuerza a responder y cuestionar sus propias continuas



René Juan de la Cruz "Mis demencias I y II" 24" x 36" computer generated plates / planchagrafía

"La planchagrafía es una placa de metal intervenida con una emulsión química para obtener reacciones de color verde que revelan mi gráfica digital."



Norah Hernández "Fragmentos de Memorias" 1999 mixed-media on wood Installation

"Inner knowledge dictates the direction of my art . . . my work is organic, my palette from the earth. Each piece evolves on its own, creating its own truth."



Eduardo Lalo Untitled 1999

"El acto fundamental de creación para mí es una tradición y una postura ante la vida y el olvido."



Georges Le Chevallier "El Perro" 1999 mixed media on canvas 24" x 24"

"Everyday urban experiences reveal unity and fragmentation; my work explores a rich and varied union of contradictions."



Reyes Meléndez Untitled [I & II], 1998 Photographs 18" x 20"

"Distorted photo images offer instantaneous glimpses, not in real time but in virtual time ... frozen images and suspended emotions."



Eddie Milla "Holy Trinity: Money" mixed-media: photo emulsion on canvas with oil, gold leaf and acrylic. (1 of 3) 32" x 30"

"Holy Trinity: Money" I reinterpret the modern trinity by exposing hypocrisies and vices rampant in today's world: money, drugs, and sex."



Enrique Renta "¿A quién sirve el barbero? Pintura en 2 actos y un bodegón 1999 impresión digital y acrílico sobre tela

"La temática es el punto de partida a la búsqueda de la imagen y sus contenidos: teatro y espectáculo como forma cultural del tedium."



Eric Schroeder-Vivas "Los rollos de Petra que cogí para hacer una hamaca" Mixed-media 72" x 42" x 2.5"

The hammock, a paradigm of the relaxed "good life" in the Caribbean, is subverted from its cognitive context to question fabricated notions of beauty influenced by the North American media and dispersed to other parts of the world.



Mario Sostre "Death of a Fairy Tale" 1997 mixed-media collage Diptych 24" x 60"

"Why" 1998
mixed-media collage
diptych 24" x 60"

"My inner thoughts are expressed



Miguel Trellles Divas 1999 Silkscreen Montage of 9 sheets 8" x 10"

This work celebrates charismatic and pioneering women that continue to influence popular culture of Latin America, the Caribbean, and the United States.



Raphael Tufino Venus 1999 Acrylic on canvas 48" x 48"

"La composición de configuraciones de estructuras y luces metafísicas ayuda al descubrimiento de como formular la verdad sobre el arte y la vida."



Pepe Villegas "Untitled" photograph

"Aspects of patriotic sentimentality united Puerto Rican immigrants in the United States. I apply iconographic images depicting political and socioeconomic realities that shape a peoples identity, apparent in their survival, pride and devotion to a treasured Puerto Rican heritage."

OpArt wishes to thank Don Ricardo Alegria, and Maria Angel Lopez Viella and the Board of Directors of El Museo de las Américas for their generous support. Most importantly, we thank the member artists of OpArt, especially Luis Carle the organization's President/Director, Frank Fournier and Aida Irene Fournier / Connections Travel, The Bacardi Company®, Luis E. Rivera, Enrique Renta, Wilmer Vélez, Jorge Calderón, René Juan de la Cruz, Mónica Gutierrez and Juan Rivera. Thanks to Luis, Delia, Ariel, Zulma and Myrna Martínez, Fernando Ramírez, Sandra Loyola, Kate Shanley, Flash Art, Thomas Blackman, Art Chicago at Navy Pier, Susana Torruella Leval, Deborah Cullen, Yasmin Ramírez and the