



Art & Craft

Cuban Contemporary Charm

By Amel Chamandy

Laced with sandy white coasts and spotted with the occasional tourist haven, the real Cuba is a mix of old world riches and bustling humanity, which has endured austerity and uncertainty with its unique blend of resilient tropical charm and effervescent undertones.

Since 1959, the colour and flavour of Cuba has largely been hidden, to be savoured locally only by those from, or just visiting, the island.

Arguably, this “relative isolation” has allowed a uniquely Cuban way to percolate into expressed forms of Contemporary Art. Now it is 2011 and as the curtain rises on Cuba, the result is similar to the opening notes of a resounding symphony that beckons to the critical eye and tantalizes the palette of collectors and appreciators on a global scale.

Like contemporary art elsewhere, the Cuban works layer obvious themes with the “beyond” of emotion and scope. But, unlike the rest of the world that has migrated to a Pangaea of common experience and familiar expression, Cuban Contemporary Art speaks with a straightforward and open-eyed innocence and clarity of expression. Relying on method and



Cuban Artist Kadir Lopez

media caught in a time warp, such work is making its mark like a breath of fresh island air on the contemporary scene.

Exuding this freshness are the works by Cuban-born artists Kadir Lopez and Alexander Poll Doval. Both artists draw on their memories and emotions to arrive at their final compositions. Freethinker Poll Doval creates an imaginary world inspired by his carefree approach to life, using bright pastels applied in rhythmic stream on canvas to shape and expand on his themes. Lopez overlays “remained” 1950’s American signage with translucent image to capture, preserve and convey his take on post 1950’s historical event and anecdotes. The results are multi-dimensional creations bound in the context of time and influence with a unique blend of homeland relic and memory.

To those who collect, this is a rare opportunity to invest, enjoy and experience the unfolding Cuban movement, the surface of whose talent and return has only been scratched.

Galerie NuEdge Fine Arts International is pleased to raise the curtain further on Cuban contemporary art with masterful works from artists Kadir Lopez and Alexander Poll Duval currently on exhibit in both Montreal and Barbados.

Gallery NuEdge

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Established in 2002, in Montreal’s prestigious Quartier du Musée, Galerie NuEdge Fine Arts International, L.P., S.E.C. is located at 1480 Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. This eclectic and dynamic contemporary art gallery features the most sought out contemporary artists from the local and international market. Exhibits include art in the form of multi-media, sculpture, painting, photography, and art installation. Such projects reflect both independent and collaborative efforts with other galleries worldwide.

We are pleased to announce that Galerie NuEdge has opened its second location, Gallery NuEdge Fine Arts Ltd., at one of the most prestigious developments in Holetown, St. James, Barbados, the Limegrove Lifestyle Centre.



Cuban Artist Alexander Poll Doval

Photo by: Clive Frost, www.galerienuedge.com