

Tomás Esson Curriculum Vitae

Born 1963 in Havana, Cuba
Lives and works in Miami, FL

Education

1987
Instituto Superior de Arte. Playa, Havana, Cuba

1982
Academia de Artes Plásticas San Alejandro, Cuba

Solo Exhibitions

2022
MUSA, David Lewis, East Hampton, NY

2021
KRAKEN, David Lewis, New York, NY

2020
Tomás Esson: The GOAT, Institute of Contemporary Art Miami, Miami, Florida (catalogue)

2019
Miami Flow II, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL

2017
Miami Flow, Fredric Snitzer Gallery. Miami, FL

2010
Tomás Esson: THE RETURN OF THE DRAGON, Ramis Barquet Gallery, New York, NY

2008
EL BICHO, Hammonds House Galleries and Resources Center of African American Art. Atlanta, Georgia

2000
MONDONGO GORDO, Wet Drawings Show, Denise Andrews Gallery, Miami, FL

1997
WET PAINTINGS for The White House, Brewster Arts LTD, New York, NY

1995
AGUA, Vrej Baghoomian Gallery, New York, NY

1993
Chá-Chá-Chá, Galería Ramis Barquet Art Cologne – Internationaler Kunstmarkt, Cologne, Germany, (catalogue with artist's interview by Eduard Sullivan)

1991

¡Que Calor! Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL (catalogue with essays by Coco Fusco and Antonio Eligio, 'Tonel')

1988

A Tarro Partido II. Galería 23 y 12, La Habana, Cuba.
(Censored and Closed Exhibition) *ESSONSISEHACE*, Instituto Superior de Arte, La Habana, Cuba

1987

A Tarro Partido, Museo Provincial de Villa Clara, Santa Clara, Cuba (catalogue with essay by Gerardo Mosquera)

Group Exhibitions

2019

El circuito del arte cubano, El Apartment. Havana, Cuba

2017

Adiós Utopia: Dreams and Deceptions in Cuban Art Since 1950, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Houston, TX

2016

Go Figure, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, Florida

2009

EXILES, Ramis Barquet Gallery, New York, NY
POST - SCRIPTUM. EDITART, Chene-Bougeries, Geneva, Switzerland
Irreversible 100 Most, Inflatable TALISMAN Sculpture, CIFO Art Space. Miami, FL (catalogue)
Arte América. Inflatable TALISMAN Sculpture, Miami Beach, FL

2008

GIANTS In The CITY, Inflatable TALISMAN Sculpture, Miami, FL (catalogue)

2006

Group Show, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, FL
Unorthodox Drawings, José Alonso Art Gallery. Miami, FL
Big Juicy Paintings, Miami Art Museum, Miami, FL

2004

Nepotism: The Art of Friendship, Curated by Edouard Duval Carrié, Museum Of Art Fort Lauderdale, FL

2003

Drawing Conclusions, curated by Nina Arias, Miami, FL (catalogue)

2002

Art From Cuba, The Ludwig Collection, State Russian Museum and Ludwig Museum, Saint Petersburg, Russia (catalogue)

Contemporary Cuban Art In New York, Benefit And Silent Auction, New York, NY (catalogue)

Why Don't We Do It On The Road? Ambrosino Gallery, Miami, FL

2001

New Art OFF Cuba, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, FL

2000

Palmas Reales y Vitrales, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, FL

Paper Papel, José Alonso Art Gallery, Miami, FL

1999

Size Matters, GAle GAtes et al. Brooklyn, NY

1998

Loin de Cuba, Musée des Tapisseries, Aix-en-Provence, France (catalogue)

1996

Monkey Business, Brewster Arts LTD, New York, NY

Selection Summer' 96, The Drawing Center, New York, NY

Cuba Siglo XX Modernidad y Sincretismo, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canarias, Spain. (catalogue)

1995

Caribbean Visions, Contemporary Painting and Sculpture, Miami Art Museum, Miami, FL (Catalogue)

1994

Premio Marco 1994, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey, Monterrey, México (catalogue)

Cuba la Isla Posible, Centre de Cultura Contemporànea de Barcelona, Spain (catalogue)

1993

Prospect 93, Eine Internationale Ausstellung Aktueller Kunst, Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, Germany (catalogue)

1992

Aquí Arte Hispano en Orlando, City Hall, Orlando, FL

Drawings Show, Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL

Cuatro Que Se Fueron, Osuna Gallery, Washington DC

Von Dort Aus: Kuba, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany (catalogue)

1991

De Cubaanse Renaissance, Maatschappij Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam (catalogue)

Los Hijos de Guillermo Tell, Museo de Artes Visuales Alejandro Otero, Caracas,

Venezuela, traveled to Banco de la República de Colombia. Bogotá (Catalogue with essay by Gerardo Mosquera)

Nuevas Adquisiciones Contemporáneas: Muestras de Arte Cubano, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, La Habana, Cuba (Catalogue)

Ostkunst - Westkunst, Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany (catalogue)

Senki Sem Sziget, Ernst Muzeum, Budapest, Hungary (catalogue with essay by Judith Sarosdy)

1990

Aktuelle Kunst aus Kuba, Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen, Stuttgart, Germany (Catalogue)

The Nearest Edge of the World: Art and Cuba Now, Main Gallery, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA. Traveled to the Bronx Museum, New York, NY (catalogue with essays by Kellie Jones and Gerardo Mosquera)

No Man Is an Island, Poring Taidemuseo, Finland (Catalogue with essays by Marketta Seppalla, Gerardo Mosquera, Osvaldo Sánchez and Antonio Eligio 'Tonel') traveled to Plaffy Palace, Vienna, Austria.

1989

Contemporary Art from Havana, Riverside Studios, London, England, traveled to Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Seville, Spain (Catalogue with essay by Gerardo Mosquera)

Jóvenes Artistas de la República Democrática Alemana y Cuba. Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, La Habana and Neue Berliner Galerie im Alten Museum. Berlin, East Germany (Catalogue with essay by Tonel)

Patria o Muerte. Castillo de la Real Fuerza. La Habana, Cuba (catalogue with essay by Tonel)

II Bienal de Cuenca, Cuenca, Ecuador (catalogue)

III Bienal de La Habana, La Habana, Cuba (catalogue)

1988

Contemporary Cuban Art, Tretryakov Gallery, Moscow, Soviet Union (catalogue)

Made in Havana: Contemporary Art from Cuba, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, traveled to Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane and Australian Center for Contemporary Art Melbourne (catalogue with essay by Charles Merewether)

No Es Solo Lo Que Ves, Facultad de Artes y Letras, Universidad de La Habana, Cuba
Raíces en Acción. Museo de Arte Carrillo Gill, México, traveled to Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Lima, Perú; Museo de Arte Moderno, Caracas (catalogue with essay by Gerardo Mosquera)

Segundo Encuentro de Jóvenes Artistas, Museo Provincial de Villa Clara, Santa Clara, Cuba

1987

Estrictamente Personal, Fototeca de Cuba, La Habana, Cuba.

Primer Encuentro de Jóvenes Artistas, Museo Provincial de Villa Clara, Santa Clara, Cuba

I Bienal de Pintura, Jaime Guasch, Barcelona, Spain, awarded First Prize. (catalogue)

1986

Concurso 13 de Marzo, Galería L, Habana, Cuba, awarded First Prize in Painting
Relevo, Instituto Superior de Arte, La Habana, Cuba

1985

Pinturas y Dibujos, Centro Provincial de Artes Plásticas y Diseño, La Habana, Cuba
IV Jornada Científica Estudiantil, Instituto Superior de Arte, La Habana, Cuba

1984

Arte en la Fábrica, La Habana, Cuba
Instituto Superior de Arte Saluda la I Bienal de La Habana, Cuba
Galería Habana e Instituto Superior de Arte, La Habana, Cuba

1983

Sala Talía, La Habana, Cuba

Bibliography

2018

Tomas Esson Wins CINTAS Award. Cuban Arts News. October 24, 2018.

2017

Janet Batet. A Fertile Universe: Tomas Esson's Miami Flow. Cuban Art News. April 25, 2017. (Web)
Rubens Riol. Los paisajes gentils de Tomas Esson y otras provocaciones. El Nuevo Herald. Miami, FL. April 7, 2017. (Newspaper)

2009

Catherine Fox. Cuban exile skillfully presents a low view of human nature. TheAtlanta Journal - Constitution. January 6, 2009. (Newspaper)

2008

Cinque Hicks. TOMAS ESSON pieces together human nature at the Hammonds House Museum. December 29, 2008. Atlanta, Georgia. (Newspaper on Website) Alberto Brown Rodriguez.
EL BICHO Y EL PICHON: dos muestras afrocubanas. MundoHispanico. 27 de Noviembre de 2008, Atlanta, Georgia. (Newspaper)
Emily Michot. Video on "Giants in The City Take Over". The Miami Herald, Florida. December 3, 2008. (Newspaper on Website)

2006

Alfredo Triff. Review on Show "Yo Soy Mi Foto": Crónicas de Nuestro Tiempo. "The Empire State Building vs. The Water Tank". El Nuevo Herald, Miami, Florida, December 24, 2006. (Newspaper)
José Antonio Evora. Review on the Show "Cubanos sin fronteras: Tomás Esson yYamel Molar Siempre hay un ojo que te ve" El Nuevo Herald. Miami, Florida. June 3, 2006. (Newspaper)
Alfredo Triff. Review on the Show "Drawing in Cuban 'Unconventional' is not the right word for Tomás Esson y Yamel Molerio." The Sun Post. Miami Florida. July 21, 2006. (Newspaper)

2003

Joel Weinstein. "A Collection to sink your teeth into Miami's Arturo Mosquera" ArtPapers March / April 2003. (Magazine)
Judy Cantor. Review on the Show "Drawing Conclusions" Curated by Nina Arias. Miami, Florida. New Times. January 23. (Newspaper)
Elisa Tuner. "The World's Top 200 Collectors" Art News / Summer 2003. p129. Illus: "Bird of Prey 1992" Oil on Canvas. (Magazine)

2001

Segmento El Arte de Crear. "Noticiero Telemundo TV". Interview Artist in Hialeah, Florida. 19 October 2001. At 6:45 AM.
Joel Weinstein. Review on the Show "New Art off Cuba" Curated by José Alonso Art Gallery. Miami, Florida. Art Papers. July/August 2001. (Magazine)

1998

Loin de Cuba. Musée des Tapisseries. Place de L' Archevêché. Aix-en Provence, France. ISBN. 2- 905195- 04-5. (Catalogue)
Olga Connor, Folie en Aix. El Nuevo Herald. Galería Dominical 15 de Noviembre. 1998, p2F. Miami, Florida. (Newspaper)
Veerle Poupeye, CARIBBEAN ART. World of Art, Thames and Hudson. p147. ISBN. 0- 500- 20306- 7 (Art Book)

1997

Peter Weiermair, FORM UND FUNKTION DER ZEICHNUNG HEUTE eine Ausstellung im Rahmen der Art Frankfurt 97 in der Halle 1, Messegelände, Messe Frankfurt. p66 (cover) ISBN. 3-929232- 35- 9. (Art Book)
Marcia Morgado, "Coleccionando arte en Miami: una obra en progreso". EXITO, 19 de Marzo 1997. Illus: "The Chicken that Laid the Golden Egg 1993" Oil on Canvas. Miami, Florida. (Newspaper)
Elisa Turner, Museum fills in more blanks, MAM unfurls more of 'Dream Collection' The Herald, section D. Miami, Florida. September 24, 1997. (Newspaper)

1996

CUBA SIGLO XX Modernidad y Sincretismo. Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. Spain. ISBN. 84- 89152- 07- 1 (Art Book)
Ellen Liburt, "Violence, Sex, Greed & Domination Pervade Brewster Art Opening" OpenAir. October 23 1996, p10B. New York City. (Newspaper)

1995

Cuba La Isla Posible. Centre de Cultura Contemporànea de Barcelona. Spain. ISBN. 84- 233-2529- 6. (Art Book)
Caribbean Vision. Contemporary Painting and Sculpture" ISBN. 0- 88397- 118- 6 (ArtBook)
The David Ebony Top 10 Articons. Review on the Art Show. "AGUA 1995." www.articons.net/ebony 2/e5. Html. Vrej Baghoomian Gallery.
AGUA Show. Vrej Baghoomia Gallery. World Art. Illus: "Mi Homenaje al Che, 1987" Oil on Canvas. (Magazine)

1994

New Art of Cuba. Luis Camnitzer. University of Texas Press. Austin, Texas.
ISBN.0- 292- 71149- 2 (Art Book)

Claudia Dobkin. "Por el Amor al Arte" Vogue Spain. August 1994, p58 Illus: "El Camino 1992" Oil on Canvas. (Magazine)

1993

Giulio Blanc. "Pequeña Habana Little Havana" Poliéster. México. No. 4
Winter 1993, p42. Illus: "Dos Deseos 1991" Oil on Canvas, and "La Tortura 1991"
Oil on Canvas. Article on Cuban art in Exile. (Magazine)

Mike Clary. "¡Castro, No Sex, Si!" Los Angeles Times. California 31 January 1993,
p72. Illus: "33 Micrófonos 1990" Oil on Canvas. Article on artist and 4 Cubans
today. (Newspaper)

Nancy Kapitanof. "Cuban Expatriate Artist Paint Another View of Castro
Revolution" Los Angeles Times. California. 14 February 1993, p85.
Review on 4 Cuban Today. (Newspaper)

Daniela Morera. "Cubani a Miami Chi Sono Gli Esiliati Che Contano" L'Uomo
Vogue. Milán, Italy. January 1993 p294. Illus: Artist and "Se hundirá primero la Isla en el mar
antes que traicionar la gloria que se ha vivido, 1991." Oil on Canvas. (Magazine)

Larry Rohter. "Jazz and Politics Meet Over the Key Board" The New York Times. 9
May 1993. p30. Article on jazz performer Gonzalo Rubalcaba. (Newspaper)

1992

Juan Abreu. "Tomás Esson, Secreciones Vitales" Diario Las Américas.
Miami, Florida. 5 January 1992, p5A. Article on "¡Que Calor! Show" (Newspaper)

Armando Álvarez Bravo. "Artistas Cubanos en Campaña Publicitaria" El Nuevo
Herald Miami,

Florida 12 July 1992, p4D. Illus: "Absolut Esson 1992" Acrylic on Canvas, 1992.
Article on Absolut Freedom Campaign. (Newspaper)

Armando Correa. "Tres Creadores en Libertad Absoluta" El Nuevo Herald.
Miami, Florida. 10 July 1992, p21D. Illus: Artist and article on Absolut Freedom Campaign.
(Newspaper)

Helen Kohen. "Cuban Artists Absolutely Talented" The Miami Herald. Miami, Florida. 13 July
1992, p1C. Illus: Artist and review on Absolut Freedom Campaign.
(Newspaper)

Robert Mahoney. "Latin American Art Boom" Preferences. New York
City. Fall 1992, p30. Article on Latin American Art. (Magazine)

Aminda Marques Gonzalez. "Dissident Cuban Artists Seek a New Vision in a
New World" The Miami Herald. Florida. 13 July 1992, p3C. Illus: "Absolut Esson 1992" Acrylic
on Canvas. (Newspaper)

Alberto Meza. "Publicidad o Arte: Cubanos en busca de lo absoluto" Éxito.
Miami, Florida. 22 July

1992, p45. Illus: Absolut Esson 1992" Acrylic on Canvas. (Newspaper)
El Arte Como Historia. Review on Drawing Show. Éxito. Miami, Florida 24 June
1992, p50. (Newspaper)

Diana Montané. "Tomás Esson: Sexo, Censura y Disidencia" Éxito. Miami Florida. 14
October 1992, p60. Illus: Artist and "Absolut Esson, 1992". (Newspaper - Cover)

Marcia Morgado. "Arte Cubano Contemporáneo Atrae la Atención Nacional" Diario

- LasAméricas Miami, Florida. 23 December 1992, p3b. Illus: Artist and article on "Cuatro Que Se Fueron." (Newspaper)
- Mireya Novo. "Miami: Nueva Meca del Arte Latinoamericano" Éxito. Miami, Florida. 5 August 1992, p56. Article on Latin American Art. (Newspaper)
- Valeria Palumbo. "Comprare Latinos" Capital. Milan, Italy. October 1992, p194. Article on Latin American Art. (Magazine)
- Miriam Pérez. "Coincidencias marcan obras de artistas exiliados de diferentes generaciones" Diario Las Américas. Miami, Florida. 19 July 1992. Review on Drawing Show. (Newspaper)
- Peter Plagens, Peter Katel and Tim Padgett. "The Next Wave From Havana" Newsweek. New York. November 30, 1992, p76. Illus: Artist and "The Last Rafter 1992", Oil on Canvas. Article on recent Cuban art. (Magazine)
- Osvaldo Sánchez. "Utopía Bajo el Volcán. La vanguardia cubana en México" Plural. México. July 1992, No.250, p40. Illus: "Con la Guardia en Alto, 1989". Charcoal and Plaster Shield on Canvas. Article on Cuban art of the 1980's. (Magazine)
- Staff. News Briefs. Latin American Art. Summer 1992, p21. Illus: "Absolut Esson, 1992" Acrylic on Canvas. Review on Absolut Freedom Campaign. (Magazine)
- Staff. "En Ces Terres D'enfance Caraïbes" Revue Noire. Paris, France. September / November 1992. No.6, p10. Illus: "ESE de Serpiente 1988" Tempera on Cardboard from SPOULAKK Installation 1987. (Magazine)
- Karen Valdés. "The Drawing Show" Art Papers. Atlanta, Georgia. November / December 1992, p42. Illus: "Self Portrait, 1992." Graphite and Watercolor on Paper. Review on Drawing Show, 1992. (Magazine)
- Michael Welzenbach. "Cuban Art at Osuna" The Washington Post. Washington DC. 5 December 1992, pF2. (Newspaper)
- Review on "Cuatro Que Se Fueron." Absolut Freedom campaign. Selecta. Miami, Florida. July 1992. Interview. New York. November 1992. (Magazine)
- 1991
- Judit Aba. "Senki Sem Sziget" PM. Budapest, Hungary. April 1991, p48. (Magazine)
- Liz Balmaseda. "Castro's Convertibles" El Nuevo Herald and The Miami Herald Tropic Magazine. Miami, Florida. 14 April 1991, p8. Illus: "El Orgasmo de Girón 1990" Oil on Canvas. The Artist and "Cuban Cigar 1990" Oil on Canvas. (Newspaper)
- Samuel Cherson. "Arte y Protesta en la Cuba de Hoy" El Nuevo Día. Puerto Rico. 4 August 1991, p12. Illus: "SPOULAKK 1987", Oil on Canvas. Review on "The Nearest Edge of the World: Art and Cuba Now." (Newspaper)
- Coco Fusco. "Art and Cuba Now" The Nation. New York. 24 June 1991. Review on "The Nearest Edge of the World: Art and Cuba Now." (Magazine)
- Kurt Hollander. "Report from Mexico 1. Art of the 80's in Monterrey. Art in America. October 1991. p46 Article on "Myth and Magic in the Americas: the 80's." (Magazine)
- Hope Katz. "Passion and Profit. The Ascension of Latin American Art" New Miami. Florida. July 1991, p24 Illus: "Leonor 1991", Oil on Canvas. Article on Latin American Art. (Magazine)
- Nelson Llanes. "Tomás Esson Confesó Delito de Alzar la Voz" Éxito. Miami

Florida. 18 December 1991, p58. Illus: "¡Que Calor! 1991". Oil on canvas. "33 Micrófonos 1990", Oil on Canvas. (Newspaper)

Elisa Tuner. Review on "¡Que Calor! Show." At Fredric Snitzer Gallery. The Miami Herald. Florida. 11December 1991, p5D. (Newspaper)

Dolf Welling. "Artistieke Scharreleieren" Trouw. Amsterdam, Holland. 8 June 1991. Article on de Cubaanse Renaissance. (Newspaper)

Mimi Whitefield. "U.S. Lifts Ban on Import Sale of Cuban Art" The Miami Herald. Florida. 28 March 1991, p23A. El Nuevo Herald, p1A. (Newspaper)

Petey Cox. "Miami Offers the Best Environment for These Artists" Miami Today. Florida. 4 June 1991. p8C. Illus: Artist and Hedwig Fijjen. "De Cubaanse Renaissance"

Art I. Amsterdam, Holland. September 1990, p94. Illus: "Mi Homenaje al Che 1987" Oil on Canvas. Article on "De Cubaanse Renaissance." (Magazine)

1990

Paulo Heitlingler. "De Cubaanse Renaissance" Art I. Amsterdam, Holland. September 1990, p97. (Magazine)

Armando Álvarez Bravo. "Artistas Jóvenes de Cuba en Boston" El Nuevo Herald.

Miami Florida. 18 November 1990, p1D. Illus: "SPOULAKK 1987" Oil on Canvas. Review on "The Nearest Edge of the World: Art and Cuba Now". (Newspaper)

Osvaldo Sánchez. "Kuuban Kuvataide, Utopia Ja Spektaakkeli" Taide, Finland.

March 1990, p41. Illus: "Talisman 1989". Article on "No Man is an Island". (Magazine)

Joanne Silver. "Castro's Children" The Boston Herald. Massachusetts. 16 November 1990, pS12.

Review on "The Nearest Edge of the World: Art and Cuba Now". (Newspaper)

Staff. "Cuban Artist Candidly Critize Rigidity and Censorship" The Guardian. 7November 1990, p10. Article on "The Nearest Edge of the World: Art and Cuba Now." (Magazine)

Staff. "Color de la Bienal" Revolución y Cultura. La Habana, Cuba. January 1990, p42.

Illus: "La Habana, Cuba 1990 Querido Hermano: Sin Mas T. Esson, 1989" Oil on Canvas.

Article on III Bienal de La Habana. (Magazine)

Christine Temin. "Cuban Art: A long trip over a short distance" The Boston Globe.

Massachusetts 4 November 1990, pB1. (Newspaper)

1989

Sebestyen Armanda. "In-Fidelities" New Statesman & Society. London, United Kingdom. 27 October 1989, p46. Review on Contemporary Art from Havana. (Magazine)

1988

Staff. "A Tarro Partido, Pinturas de Tomás Esson" Cartelera / Revolución y Cultura. 13 January 1988, p3. Illus: Artist. (Magazine)

1987

Antonio Eligio (Tonel). "Trece Que Fueron Uno" Revolución y Cultura. La Habana, Cuba. July 1987, p49. (Magazine)

1986

Gerardo Mosquera " Mitología y Vulgaridad " Revolución y Cultura. La Habana, Cuba. September 1986, p78. Illus: "Elegante" Oil on Canvas. (Magazine)

David Lewis

Museum Collections

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC

ICA Miami, Miami, FL

Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst. Aachen, Germany

Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes. La Habana, Cuba

Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Monterrey, México

Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale, FL

Museum of Contemporary Art. North Miami, FL

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, CA

Nassau County Museum of Art. Roslyn Harbour, NY

Pérez Art Museum, Miami, FL

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Chicago, IL

Whitney Museum of American Art. New York, NY