

Adislen Reyes

Cosecha No. 1

Injerto

“Tras la línea de plata”,
Un “Gusano de seda” me muestra su “Cosecha”,
Al tiempo que el “Ocaso” se pierde en la “Marea baja”,
Develando la “Corteza” el resurgir desde el “Abismo”.

Graft

"After the silver line",
A "Silkworm" shows me his "Harvest",
While "Sunset" is lost at "Low Tide",
Unveiling the "Bark" the resurgence from the "Abyss".

A.R.

The artist works with the pieces left over from previous works. (that is, scraps of paper and cardboard as in the series "Crisis" (2015-2017). She rips, squeezes, breaks the paper and then tries to recompose it, creating new surfaces in which the laceration is evident. Everything is worked from the fragments and related to concepts that she has previously addressed, such as patience, waiting, and the call for attention to small things...

About the artist

Adislen Reyes was born in 1984, in Havana. She is an artist and also a professor of printmaking at the San Alejandro Academy of Fine Arts, where she herself had studied. The next step in her artistic journey was at the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) where Reyes completed her degree in 2010. Since then, this artist has created several noteworthy bodies of work.

Despite her youth, her work is eagerly sought and she exhibits in over a dozen solo and group exhibitions each year. Her work has generated considerable interest. Described as ‘a smart young feminist influenced by contemporary media culture, plying the waters of relationships, sexuality, and identity with wit, humor and more than a little kitsch’, this is an artist who is highly accomplished as a printmaker and who engages with tensions in young Cuban society today. Each work created by Reyes has a story to tell and she challenges the viewer to look beyond the playful humor she employs to reflect on the deeper relationships expressed in each work. This socially conscious artist has treated a number of themes, including in a recent series of graphite drawings entitled *Crisis*, the conflictual relationships involving in creating art. In another series of textured printworks entitled *Bluebloods* she offers social and political reflections on Cuba’s youngest generation and its relationship with the past. Popular imagery is employed in thought-provoking ways in several of her series. This body of work draws on images from the world of international advertising to

question the social conditioning that shapes attitudes to women in society and to challenge the constructs of gender.

Reyes has exhibited extensively in Havana and further afield on the island. After appearing in the 11th edition of Havana's renowned Biennial, her work was again selected to display in the official galleries of the 2015 Biennial held last May. She is also becoming known outside Cuba following group shows in numerous cities including in Washington DC, Boston, San Francisco, Miami, Berlin, Belize, Beijing, Taipei, and Madrid. Reyes was awarded the Havana-Cultura scholarship in 2012 and came second in an important exhibition of contemporary art in 2014 in Havana entitled Post-It.