

Jorge Arcos (Artist)
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About Jorge Arcos

“Form is the vessel in which ideation takes shape, and it is with ingenuity and abundant variety that artists communicate their ideas about the world. Create art, is a captivating journey into the hearts and minds of this talented artist who has distinctive techniques and interests.

Transposing visceral emanations into color values and textural forms, JORGE ARCOS' highly personalized abstract paintings reflect an electrifying intensity as he extracts the repressed and the invisible, inviting the viewer to contemplate some inscrutable facet of our world.

Wassily Kandinsky once mused, 'there is no 'must' in art because art is free'. An artist of dynamic contrasts and exceptional vision, painter Jorge Arcos demonstrates this inherent freedom art sustains in his brilliant series. In Mr. Arcos' work, one witnesses the pinnacle of what makes for successful abstraction. Mr. Arcos is extraordinarily adept at intricate application of paint and color pattering. The palette of Mr. Arcos' series cannot be overemphasized. It is expressive to the highest degree and effectively communicates a mood to the viewer without need of direct scene or representation. Transcending everyday reality, Mr. Arcos is an artistic intermediary whose canvases conjure vibrant spectrums of human emotions”.

Ruthie Tucker

Curator and Director

Amsterdam Whitney Gallery, New York City

Biography

Was born in 1969, in Mexico City. He intruded in the art in a lyrical and incidental way when he was a little boy, in the year of 1974, working with drawings. As a young boy he received direct artistic influence from his father who was a Landscaping painter at that time. Jorge regarded art as a part of himself during his childhood and adolescence. Later on he perfected his technique by taking drawing classes, painting, history of the art, human body drawing, art object, engraving, mixed media and abstraction. He decides to pursue a career in “Drawing and Illustration and Fine Arts” at Escuela Superior de Arte y Dibujo Publicitario, in Mexico City. Some years later, he decides to move to Atlanta, Georgia where he focuses on Abstract Art, figurative forms, and murals as well. In each new work, Jorge looks out from within as he explores issues of outer and inner development. Jorge had the opportunity in 2005 to work with kids from Elementary, High School and College, in a project organized by Oxford College, in Covington, Georgia, named “Fiesta del color”, where Mr. Arcos had an art exhibition in the Candler Student Center, and some conference talks with teachers and students.

Mr. Arcos shared knowledge to the young guys, where they learned techniques of how to apply color and make a composition for a painting. Later, High School kids made a mural in their school applying that they learned. In 2006, Mr. Arcos worked in a project with other artists like Ernesto Cuevas, Waldo Vinces and Roberta Griffin, in the City Hall East, Atlanta. It was a mural painting on paper, where they showed their Hispanic roots. Recently, in April, 2014, Jorge Arcos was commissioned from Westminster Schools to make a huge mural in a Latino Mall called Plaza Fiesta. Jorge painted a colorful abstract and figurative mural, where he integrated Mexican icons about its beautiful past, and present and future of Hispanic community in the United States.

Mr. Jorge has had several art exhibitions in some countries, such as Germany, Portugal, Spain and United States, with private and corporate collections around the world.

Currently his work is focused on abstract painting, with different mediums such as acrylic, oil and mixed media, on wood and canvas, also working with this great medium called encaustic.

Art Statement

“My art is an expression overflowing, of how I perceive the world. The pallet is usually colorful and with uncontrollable ways, that are merged into an uncontrollable world of organic forms. Thank to my Pre-Hispanic heritage, coming from a fully cultural rooted country, my work shows lively and energetic, strong and obsessive. Looking at a world, that it is full of nuances and changes, my focus comes from inner feeling about life. Through a journey of learning path, my work conveys self-discovery and evolution, communicating to the viewer, my personal viewing and perception of the world around me; quieting mind, and carrying my ideals through colors and shapes, eluding conformity and traditionalism”.

“I am an artist because I was born to be one. I couldn't live if I wasn't one. I am alive because I paint. It feeds my soul. My motive to paint is to live and to express every moment of my life and the simple fact of being alive”.

Bronislaw M. Bak

1922-1981

He was a favorite to many students at Georgia Southern during his years in Statesboro (1973-1981). An engaging professor, he was as much a philosopher as an artist. He approached teaching as he approached his work - in pursuit of truth. As an artist his explorations took many paths, testing ideas and applying his design theories in both the realm of abstract and figurative art. Bronislaw Bak was a thinking man's artist whose considerable legacy continues to engage people long after his passing.

He was born in 1922 in Leszno, a small town in Poland, where his mother was the librarian. At the age of 17 he became a cadet in the Polish army, on the eve of World War II. He fought against the German invasion of Poland in 1939 and was captured and forced into slave labor in German fields and factories until 1943. Escaping to Poland, he was recaptured by the SS, beaten and thrown into the Shirmeck concentration camp in Vichy France where he remained until he was freed by American troops in 1945. The Shirmeck concentration camp was a "reeducation camp" for resisters from occupied lands throughout Europe, a number of whom ended up in the Nazweiler_Struthof death camp 10 kilometers away.

After the war he studied art in Mannheim, where he met his wife, Hedi. Hedi and Bronislaw were part of the first generation of art students in Germany after the war. Up until the Nazi took power in 1933, Europe was the cultural center of the world and art flourished in Germany. Artists were banned, driven in exile and many killed during the Hitler era. The small community of artists, teachers and students who came together amid the rubble of post-war Germany were inspired and grounded in the methods and ideas of an earlier epoch. Bronislaw and Hedi brought this lifelong passion for the pursuit of art to their adopted homeland in 1952. Bronislaw left a 30-year legacy of architectural commissions, paintings, sculpture and fine prints. In 1960 he designed and executed one of the largest stained-glass windows in the world at St. Johns University's Abby Church in Collegeville Minnesota.

GRACIELA NÚÑEZ BEDOYA

BIOGRAPHY AND STATEMENT

Born in Lima, Peru on April 18, 1987, Graciela is the youngest of two children born to William H. Núñez Carrillo and Maria L. Bedoya Revollar. She grew up in the coastal city of Callao, a suburb of the capital. From an early age, Graciela observed her father do small drawings and paintings which inspired her to pursue art. The family moved to Atlanta in 2000. In 2004, during her residency at the Governor's Honors program in Valdosta, Graciela became fascinated with classical instruction and traditional studio practice honed by the old masters of the Renaissance. She was naturalized a U.S citizen in the summer of 2014. She earned her BFA in painting, drawing, and printmaking from Georgia State University where she graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2015. She became a member of the Latin American group Contrapunto in 2016. She has exhibited in Alabama, Georgia, Pennsylvania New Jersey and New Mexico. She currently resides in Lilburn where she has a small studio space. Her work revolves mainly around realism and the figure as her main subject:

"Drawing the figure over and over represents humanity's footprint on everything that exists today. Together with my gravitation towards grisaille and an intrigue for the evocative, I aim to captivate—if only for a second—by offering a dream-like vision that seeks to mesmerize the observer. Emphasizing classical methods allows me a roadmap through the ever-evolving contemporary art media."

Internships

2014 *Drink in 3D with Britoni B. Drinkware*, Atlanta, GA

Studio Assistant

2015 *Ears* installation for Dolby Sound Systems, Nikki Starz, Sculptor

Honors and Awards

2015 Nancy Goyer Scholarship

2013 Mark Phillips Scholarship finalist 2011-2015 Dean's List (every semester)

Honors and Organizations

2014 Printmaking Club, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA 2012 Honors College, Atlanta, GA

GRACIELA NÚÑEZ BEDOYA
gracielasstudio@gmail.com
gracielasstudio.com

Education

- 2015 B.F.A. with Distinction and Honors in Drawing, Painting & Printmaking, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
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Exhibitions

- 2017 *Contrapunto*, Abernathy Arts Center, Sandy Springs, GA
Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, Coca Cola Headquarters, Atlanta, GA
Surrealist Apparatus, Union City Museum of Art, Union City, NJ
Surrealist Apparatus, Rigo Art Studio, Allentown, PA
Tell Me I'm Sexy, Murmur Media, Atlanta, GA *Macondo/Mar-A-Lago*, Stephen Smith Fine Art, Fairfield, AL
Art Crush, Gallery 874, Atlanta, GA
- 2016 *Bombay Sapphire Artisan Series*, Mason Murer Fine Art, Atlanta, GA, Finalist
Coca Cola Hispanic Heritage Month, Coca Cola Headquarters, Atlanta, GA
Blackness in Latin America, Center for the Arts, Hobbs, NM
Contrapunto, Aurora Theater, Lawrenceville, GA
We Made This Last Minute, J Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 *The Wayward Matrix*, J Gallery, Atlanta, GA
Untitled, Georgia Dome Presidential Suite, Atlanta, GA
NKOTB2 Juried Student Exhibition, MINT, Atlanta, GA (Juror: Mary Stanley, Independent Curator, Young Collectors Club, Atlanta, GA) *Georgia State Undergraduate Research Conference*, Georgia State University Student Ballroom, Atlanta, GA
- 2014 *ASU GSU Low Show Juried Student Exhibition*, Low Museum, Atlanta, GA
Perspectivas: Reflections on Latin American/Hispanic Identity, Georgia State University Gallery Lounge, Atlanta, GA, First Place Award
- 2012 *Latino Influences on American Culture*, Georgia State University Gallery Lounge, Atlanta, GA
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Residencies

- 2017 *Murmur Quarter Program*, Atlanta, GA

GARY CHAPMAN

Region: South

Website: <http://www.garychapmanart.com>

City / State: Birmingham, AL

I am an artist. I draw, paint, print, sculpt, find and assemble my work. I am a realist, however, I am not interested in the simple reproduction of an image. I am interested in a realism that goes beyond pictorial reality and recognizes a broader and deeper understanding of what 'real' means. In this realism, feelings, ideas, and emotions are as tangible as an apple or a face. Though I make images, I am not a camera.

In my work I attempt to investigate what is real and what is truth. As an artist, I do not confine myself or my subjects to a single place or moment in time, nor do I limit my interpretation of them through just one medium, device, or style. It is through this expanded visual vocabulary and the resulting cathartic process that I hope to reveal a more complete and genuine understanding of my subjects.



BIO

Gary Chapman, Professor of Painting and Drawing,
University of Alabama at Birmingham (MFA, Cranbrook Academy of Art; BA and BS,
Berea College)

Chapman has had over 60 solo exhibitions with institutions such as The Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, The Arts Center of St. Petersburg, FL; University of Cincinnati, University of Georgia, and the Indianapolis Art Center. He has also participated in numerous group and invitational exhibitions with regional, national and international venues.

Chapman was awarded and named a Joan Mitchell CALL Legacy Artist in 2013 and has received numerous grants and fellowships, including a 1996 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Painting from the Southern Arts Federation and a 2002 and 1994 Individual Artist Fellowships from the Alabama State Council on the Arts. His work has been reviewed extensively and is published in over 20 catalogs and books including the 4 Editions of *New American Paintings*.

13 Paintings by Chapman have been purchased for the collections of ten museums in the southeast region as well as by many corporate and private collections throughout the country.

Pedro Fuertes: (Lima - Peru): Internationally known for its complex abstractions on the great nature, derived from a deep observation of the ecology and its environment, although with different approaches to Abstract Surrealist painting, it has a constant desire to renew the language Abstract Colors and stains, are not born of the gesture, but are part of the creative development, is the act of painting at its best. Thus, artists face the blank canvas to go to the picture in the same process, which sometimes beyond the plastic process, to achieve an existential experience or self-knowledge. Although the work of this artist is very complex because of his defeat of technically, he moves in an apparent abstraction and a non-referential world, which is a story of what operates in the everyday.

Rigo Peralta



Art, for me, is a spontaneous act of existential discovery and imagination. My paintings are labyrinths of the real and surreal. Through richly charged, rhythmic compositions and a palette steeped in the vibrant colors of my Dominican homeland, I blend diverse cultural references, symbolic imagery, mythology, and organic, mechanical, and abstract forms. I plumb the depths of nature and human existence and create fantastical worlds in which I lay bare and seek to reconcile the tensions between our primal and spiritual natures and a world increasingly controlled by machines, technology, and political upheaval. I explore nature, humanity, and spirituality in everything I create.

While I am also a print maker, painting is my primary medium. My creative process is organic. I do not make preliminary sketches. Rather, I come to the bare canvas with the creative urge to paint. I lay the canvas on the floor and build layers of color and texture. From these layers, ideas and form coalesce and a narrative thread emerges.

A predominant theme I explore in my work is the relentless push and pull between human and machine: mechanical forms unite with and invade the body; industry and technology erode our spirituality and free will; our connection to nature and to each other is threatened. But ultimately, my work is about the persistence of nature and the beauty, strength, and spiritual essence of human existence.

Michael Polomik

Bio / Statement

Michael Polomik, who lives and works in the Raleigh, NC area, was raised in California and North Carolina, and earned a Masters of Fine Arts from Western Carolina University focusing in painting and drawing. He has exhibited actively in NC and abroad for many years, featuring work in galleries in Los Angeles, New York, Atlanta, and Chicago. Polomik's works have garnered recognition for their unique atmospheres involving the human form.

"Many of my early drawings were created atop old engineering diagrams I was given as scrap paper. I manipulated these diagrams while drawing, and my imagery gradually evolved to integrate characteristics often associated with geometric abstraction and classical realism. My current work depicts figures within a landscape containing repetitive, abstracted fragments that deconstruct, conjoin, and provide directional cues. The structures I create around the human form allude to stories that have had a lasting impact on my perspective, especially experiences that leave their own unique footprint, such as love, death, and new life.

The process of my two dimensional work draws heavily from the old masters. I paint using a traditional veil imprimatura, a monochromatic grisaille layer, and followed by glazed layers of color to achieve a luminescent effect.

Beyond the themes I have discussed above, the ultimate goal in my work is to create romanticized environments that incorporate patterning and diagrammatic marking. For me, this image glorifies the process of understanding our world based upon studying and experiencing it; practices in which I find wonder and contentment."

- Michael

Artist Website

www.michaelpolomik.com

Michael Polomik

www.michaelpolomik.com

Education

MFA, Painting and Drawing, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC. 2010

BA, Painting and Graphic Design, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, NC. 2005

Solo Exhibitions

"Hellbent Crown" The Carrack Modern Art, Durham, NC. 2016

"Golden Hound" King Shivel Gallery, Lees McRae College, Johnston City, TN. 2016

"Suspended Dermis" (Two person show), Bottega Gallery, Wilmington, NC. 2015

"The Piercing Gaze of Royalty" Carrboro Arts Center, Carrboro, NC. 2014

"Praises of a Dead Horse" William King Museum, Abingdon, VA. 2013

"Recent Work" Fayetteville Technical Community College Gallery, Fayetteville, NC. 2011

"Envisioning Balance" Western Carolina University Fine Art Museum, Cullowhee, NC. 2010

Selected Group Exhibitions

"Surrealist Apparatus" Union City Museum of Art, Union City, NJ. 2017

"Surrealist Apparatus" Rigo Peralta Gallery, Philadelphia, PA. 2017

"Alumni Invitational" CAB Gallery, UNC Wilmington, NC. 2017

"Spring" The Carrack Modern Art, Durham, NC. 2016

"Werd" Visual Arts Exchange, Raleigh, NC. 2015

"Faculty Show" Cary Arts Center, Cary, NC. 2015

"Snap to Grid" LACDA, Los Angeles, CA. 2014

"SOTA" Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, NC. 2014

"Spring" The Carrack Modern Art, Durham, NC. 2014

"Faculty Exhibit" Bascom Arts Center, Highlands, NC. 2014

"Gold Party" Beep Beep Gallery, Atlanta, GA. 2014

"Community II" Carrboro Arts Center, Carrboro, NC. 2013

"Faculty Exhibit" Bascom Arts Center, Highlands, NC. 2013

"Winter" The Carrack Modern Art, Durham, NC. 2012

"Community" Carrboro Arts Center, Carrboro, NC. 2012

"Peril" Armageddon Gallery, Brooklyn, NY. 2012

"Postcard Pinup Show" Mint Gallery, Atlanta, GA. 2011

"SOTA" Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, NC. 2011

"Systems" Elegant Mr. Gallery, Chicago, IL. 2011

"New Waves" Upstairs Artspace, Tryon, NC. 2011

"In Sunshine or In Shadow" CCCD (Hendersonville, NC), WCU (Cullowhee, NC). 2010

"WCU Faculty and Student Show" Old Conn Gallery, Landrum, SC. 2009

Awards

Grand Prize, Artist of the Month, *The Art List*, 2017
 Member of the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society. 2011
 2nd Place, Niggli Portrait Competition, 130 Gallery, Cullowhee, NC. 2010
 Travel Grant, Travel funded to lecture on MFA program at Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, NC) for potential candidates at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. 2008
 Graduate Assistantship, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC. 2007
 2nd Place, Art and Wine Festival, Hugh McRae Park, Wilmington, NC. 2006
 Best in Show, All Student Show, Warwick Gallery, Wilmington, NC. 2003

Speaking Engagements

The Carrack Modern Art, Durham, NC. 2016
 Lees McRae College, Johnston City, TN. 2016
 William King Museum, Abingdon, VA. 2013
 Malaprops Bookstore, Asheville, NC. 2011
 Fayetteville Tech CC Gallery, Fayetteville, NC. 2011
 Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC. 2010
 Univ of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, NC. 2009

Residencies

Artist in Residence, Marshall High Studios, Marshall, NC. 2009
 Artist in Residence, En Plein Air Collective, Sylva, NC. 2008

Publications

Artlist. Artist Interview and Featured Work. https://www.theartlist.com/aom_04_17.html 2017
 Howe, Brian. "Hellbent Crown" *Indy Magazine*, Vol 33 / No 36 / 9/7 - 9/14/2016. Writeup and Featured Work. p. 42.
 Truss, Emily. "Re-Imagine the Human Form" *Encore Magazine*, Wilmington, NC. 18 February 2015
 Umerah, Chinelo. "Carrboro Artscenter show captures 'The Piercing Gaze of Royalty'" *The Daily Tar Heel*, Chapel Hill, NC. 17 February 2014
 West, Linnea. "In 200 Words: Beep Beep Throws a Gold Party" *Burnaway Magazine*, Atlanta, GA. <http://burnaway.org/200-words-gold-party-beep-beep-gallery/> 2014
 ArtSpeaks, WKM Radio Interview. 2013
 Featured Artist. *Empty Lighthouse Online Magazine*. www.emptylighthouse.com. 2013
 Joy, David. "Growing Gills" Fairview, NC: Bright Mountain, 2011. Print. Cover art and 17 chapter illustrations.
 Featured Artist. *BeinArt Collective*. www.beinart.org. 2010
 Hodges, Lauren. "Triple Threat" *Encore Magazine*. Vol. 24 / Pub. 10 / 8/29 – 9/4/2007. Interview and Featured Work. p. 4, 20-21.

Carolina Rojas Sculptor



Born in Venezuela, Carolina Rojas works in Miami Wynwood Art District at BakeHouse Art Complex. She produced a large number of sculptures of great artistic vision, original content, and unprecedented style.

"There is a precision in her sculpture that is undeniable, a precision that is the very essence of her work. Like a scientist she analyzes the exact proportions and measurements of the formal idea, which she is projecting into new manifestations. Every aspect of the form is important, the choice of the material, the look of the surface. For Rojas, the technical aspects of the sculpture are directed toward a sensory meaning that becomes a metaphor of existence in time and space. In this sense, the precision of Rojas's art is like a journey through some unknown metaphysical reality where the substance of life is explored and investigated, pulled apart and reconstituted. It is a purposeful equivocation poised between the physical and the metaphysical that endures in the sculpture of Carolina Rojas – welcome at planet peace."

Art History Consulting
Dr. Barbara Aust-Wegemund

Carolina's bronze sculptures are now in private collections throughout the United States, Venezuela, China, Mexico and Spain.

CARLOS SOLIS

Carlos was born in Maracaibo, Venezuela and currently resides in Kennesaw, Georgia. Carlos background is in Graphic Design. He started painting in the mid-nineties as a freelancer specializing in nature, fantasy, spirituality and conceptual art.

In "The Dreamlike Reality" Carlos dreams are transformed to convey and stimulate the mythical and spiritual elements through visual expression. His passion in painting started with the magnificence elements of nature, fauna and flora, and it's natural beauty that involves it's selective conditions; for example, the majestic animals of the Amazon or Indians from Venezuela (Guajiros). He has always tried to expand his work to other areas of reality and with a spiritual meaning. Carlos occasionally has the tendency to go from one extreme to another in order to explore, and show the ranges of styles and techniques in creating the most beautiful and delicate components of life to the most complex and strange art.

Carlos has the pleasure and the opportunity to experience the richness of many cultures in South and North America, which has allowed him to expand his imagination even more. It also helped him to understand the differences and similarities of both worlds. His work reflects the distinctness of his artistic perception from those experiences, which provides vivid colors and physical details in order to make something visually pleasing, grotesque or unfamiliar to look at. Carlos also tries to create awareness by expressing an opinion about our delicate habitat, the lack of knowledge about cultural and racial diversity in South America.

Carlos is also himself a curator and the leader of a group of Latin American artist residing in Georgia called Cantrapunto. Carlos has exhibited in several cities around the country including but not limited to New York, Chicago and Atlanta.



Ricardo Solís

Born in Guadalajara, Jalisco January 9th 1980.
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Born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico graduated from the School of Visual Arts and acquired expertise in workshops outstanding teachers. He has participated in several exhibitions nationally and internationally and his work is in major collections.

From a young age attracted to art and nature, now as a professional artist tries to express in his work the beauty and perfection of both and their belief in the undeniable existence of a Creator. Currently living in Guadalajara, and together with his wife educate their four children at home.

Some exhibitions:

- "8th annual Latino Art Auction" MACLA'S gallery, San Jose CA.
- "Troisieme Mexique Peinture Contemporaine" on Institute of Mexico in Paris.
- "Paintings of Galeria Adriana Valdés Guadalajara" in the gallery Canberra Grammar School, Canberra, Australia.
- salón de Octubre 2011, exconvento del Carmen, Guadalajara, Jal. Mex.
- "Alternative origins" Galerie des artistes" Puerto Vallarta, Mex.
- 2017- Cities on the rock. Solo exhibition Galerie 38 Paris, France.

JUAN RAMIRO TORRES

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BIO:

Juan Ramiro Torres was born in Lima Peru and has lived in the United States since 1984. He graduated from Parsons School of Design (NY) in 1991, since then he has worked as Art Director of many newspapers. He currently works as fine artist, art teacher, graphic designer and journalist.

His artwork has been exhibited in major events and galleries in the United States and other countries (Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Argentina, New Zealand, Italy and France). He has been recognized with numerous honors and awards, and his works are part of important private and public collections.

As journalist, Juan Ramiro writes articles for several newspapers, and works for the TV show "La Revista Semanal" for Azteca TV.

STATEMENT:

"Every painting tells a story that one has lived. Therefore my work finds all it's emotions, characters and scenery through my past. With the use of a contemporary language these subjects blend together to recreate and enhance an event."

Kuukua Wilson

Just a few words...

Born in the small fishing beach-town of Sekondi-Takoradi on the western coast of Ghana, traits of my upbringing and culture always appear in my works. As the culture of Ghana is vibrant, vivid and inviting, I also strive to maintain that similar energy in my work.

My work falls into two categories: the first is the research driven scientific illustration, and the second is my fine arts and creative visual exploration. Both deal with storytelling.

As an Artist, I aim to utilize both simple imagery and obscure subject relationships to describe the complexities of life. I delve into topics ranging from cultural ideals, beauty, nature, emotions and the human experience, and use my works more specifically, to discuss my culture and the lens that it has provided me to view and understand life.