

The Latin American Art Journal

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MIAMI, ART CAPITAL OF LATIN AMERICA

By Valentina Tintori

At Arteamericas Art Fair 2010, emerging talents shared space alongside acclaimed artists such as Salvador Dalí, Manolo Valdés and León Ferrari.

The eighth edition of Arteamericas opened its doors last March at the Miami Beach Convention Center. In general the event offered emerging contemporary and conceptual art. Through their proposals, artists earned spaces in the young collectors market who are involved in art and are looking for new tendencies and new proposals. In this exhibit the majority of the pieces were by up-and-coming artists, there were only a few artworks by well known artists such as Miguel Pujos who presented an old fisherman's net in order to emphasize the main role of music in Latin American culture. There was a sculpture by Salvador Dalí, "Hombre sobre delft" along with a beautiful wooden Menina "Margarita" by Manolo Valdés valued at USD 1,700,000, also an art piece by the prestigious Argentinean artist León Ferrari, and marvelous works by Cubans Wilfredo Lam and Carlos Enríquez which were shown by the well known Miami Art galleries, Cernuda Arte and Latin Art Core.

More than 300 artists were represented by galleries based in cities such as Berlin, Bogotá, Buenos Aires, Chicago, Panama, Miami, Madrid, Santiago de Chile and Caracas. .

As a curator the one artist which caught my eye in this exhibition was Cuban artist Claudio Castillo been shown by TRESART Gallery, who presented four pieces with a production categorized by some critics as "Regenerative art" consisting of watercolor animation drawings integrated into a software which was created by the artist himself, it is a mixture between paint and video art. His

work is presented in a box with a LCD screen that shows a video about a painting which is in constant movement and the image changes by itself. What the spectator sees in a moment can only be repeated or seen again in 8 trillion years according to the artist.

Castillo is not only an excellent drawer, he is also a technology creator which turns him into an avant-garde artist. One of Claudio's pieces was connected to internet and changed accordingly to what was happening with the climate at the time.

This year the fair offered special support to the Haitian art community affected by the recent earthquake, this effort was directed by the caribbean artist Edward. Also, throughout the event the organizing committee offered interesting conferences on contemporary art dictated by curators from the Miami Art Museum, Bs Museum in Miami and Americas Society Foundation in NYC.