The Jose Antonio Dias Pelaez Experimental Art School and the Artwork of Yuleisy Fernandez and Jesús Molina

Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata and Jesús Molina

Abstract: Photo essay featuring the work of and behind the scenes photos from Cruzata and Molina.

Keywords: Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata, Jesús Molina, Jose Antonio Dias Pelaez, Experimental Art School, fine art, contemporary art, Cuban art, African art, African Diaspora art, Indigenous culture, African culture, Santeria, Antilles, Taino

Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata

My name is Yuleisy “Yuly” Fernández Cruzata and my partner is Jesús Molina. We are visual artists, and we live in Cuba. We want to discuss our art and our works of art. For example, in my works of art, I like to represent the mix between the indigenous Antilles and the Antillean culture and the African culture and how it has emerged to this day. It influences me. I live it. I feel it every day. In my country, these cultures are very strong and I like to represent these cultures in my works of art. I try to show how important the symbols and markings on the body were to the indigenous population as well as African cultures and show how these things have emerged to this day. You can see it in the rituals and Santeria today. That is what I like to represent and that is what I want to my works of art to represent.

Jesús Molina

I believe my works of art are a mix between [cultures] — similar to what Yuly said. In my works of art, the representation of the Antilles is practically the spinal cord of everything. I think that the customs, their cries, the Taínos, the spiritual form, the spiritual world is the main point of everything. [It] moves image, form, and meaning in my work. I think in a very magical, ritualistic way, that process that is created as I create, as I search, as I get involved with the subject. All that stuff that’s coming out of there, you capture it in a way. All that mystery left of the indigenous world gave way to an African culture. [It] welcomed [African cultures] with open arms and of course it enriched our culture along with the others who migrated to our land. It turns out that it greatly enriches the work.

Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata and Jesús Molina

Well, we like it so much that it brought us together in life, as a couple. We are very happy with our works of art and happy to share it with you. We hope you like it.
"The Jose Antonio Dias Pelaez Experimental Art School" — Cruzata and Molina

"Indocubans" — Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata
"Untitled 2" — Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata
"The Jose Antonio Dias Pelayez Experimental Art School" — Cruzata and Molina

"Untitled" — Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata
Jesús Molina at work

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Jesús Molina at work
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Jesús Molina at work
"Transculturation Series 1" — Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata
"Untitled" — Yuleisy Fernández Cruzata

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