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Images (L to R) :: *Back Yard Dreams* (detail) by Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, *The Great Orator* by Enrique Flores – Galbis, *BITS (Poolside 2)* by Gabriel Martinez

LA CUBANA Y EL CUBANO

September 10 – October 6

The Copley Society of Art is proud to present *La Cubana y el Cubano*, an exhibition of Cuban art with works by Cuban and Cuban-American artists, curated by Camilø Álvarez. This exhibition runs from September 10th through October 6th, 2016, at the Co|So gallery, located at 158 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116. An opening reception on Saturday, September 10th from 5:30 – 7:30pm will have refreshments, light snacks, and festive music.

La Cubana y el Cubano, curated by Camilø Álvarez, Director of Samsøñ, features work by the following artists: Analía Amaya, Augusto Bordelois, Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, Humberto Díaz, Magda Fernández, Enrique Flores-Galbis, Luis Gispert, Olivia Ives-Flores, Carlos Martiel and Gabriel Martinez. Please see abbreviated bios below for participating artists:

Analía Amaya (b. Matanzas, Cuba, 1979) lives and works in Havana, Cuba. Her work captures minimal, fleeting instances of light. Familiar images are reduced to only the illumination and light that the subjects reflect, rearranging and modifying our perception of a determined landscape. Her work has been featured in exhibitions by Salle Cero (Havana, Cuba), Galería La Casona (Havana, Cuba), Museo de Arte Contemporáneo (Valdivia, Chile) Gallery two (North Uist, Scotland) and the Queens Museum (New York, NY).

Augusto Bordelois (b. 1969, Havana, Cuba) lives and works in Cleveland, OH. As a painter, he combines fairy tales and personal dreams, inserting them into dramatic situations, or day to day happenings, to explore subjects like the power of the feminine. He has presented solo exhibitions with River House Arts (Toledo, OH), Steve Martin Fine Art (New Orleans, LA), and Cleveland State University (Cleveland, OH).

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Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons (b. 1959, Matanzas, Cuba) currently lives and works in Boston, MA. Through installation, photography and cultural activism, she explores history, memory and their connection to the formation of identity. In recent work, she recounts her personal heritage and displacement through creating structures reminiscent of rum distilleries, a prevalent symbol of her childhood landscape and her ancestor's labor. Her work belongs to numerous collections including the Museum of Modern Art (New York, NY), The Whitney Museum of American Art (New York, NY), and the National Museum of Fine Arts (Havana, Cuba).

Humberto Díaz (b. Cienfeugos, Cuba, 1975) lives and works in Havana, Cuba and New York, NY. Díaz uses sculpture, installation, video, performance and site specific works to investigating the relationship between humans and objects, as well as the interpersonal interactions between two people. Recent solo exhibitions have been presented by The Bronx Museum of the Arts (New York, NY), the Bienal de La Habana (Havana, Cuba), The Andrew Freedman Home (Bronx, NY), Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales (Havana, Cuba). His work belongs to the collections of the Bronx Museum (Bronx, NY), Art Now International (San Francisco, CA), Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes (Havana, Cuba), and 21c Museum, (Louisville, KY).

Magda Fernández (b. 1957, Havana, Cuba) lives and works in Boston, MA. She is a video-artist who blurs theater and performance through her work in silent video. Dualities like power versus helplessness, fantasy versus reality, and memory versus history, are common themes found in her work. She is interested in her personal heritage and identity related to Cuba and colonialism. She has had videos featured in ILLUMINUS (Boston, MA), a Harvard University public initiative (Boston, MA) and Peekskill Project sponsored by Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (Peekskill, NY). She is a recipient of the MIT Council for the Arts Director's Grant.

Enrique Flores-Galbis (b.1952, Havana, Cuba) lives and works in Forest Hills, NY. He is a painter who emigrated to the United States from Cuba alone at the age of 9. The imagery in his work creates a non-linear narrative that communicates both his childhood memories and his contemporary experience of Cuba. He is a recipient of the Mayor Edward I. Koch Hispanic Achievement Award. His work is included in several collections including Yale University (New Haven, CT) and the Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art (New York, NY).

Luis Gispert (b. 1972, Jersey City, NJ) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. He is a sculptor, photographer, and video artist whose work, inspired by his upbringing in Miami, FL, encompasses ideas of youth culture, ethnicity, and art history within domestic interiors and personal vehicles. Using a vivid palette, rich ornamentation, and personal narrative, he heightens themes of consumption and authenticity. Recent exhibitions include *America is Hard to See*, a group show at the Whitney Museum of American Art (New York, NY), Biennale Internationale Design Saint-Étienne, Musée d'Art et d'Industrie (Saint-Étienne, France), and a solo exhibition at Museum of Contemporary Art (Miami, FL). His work belongs to the collections of the Guggenheim Museum (New York, NY), the Whitney Museum (New York, NY) and the Miami Art Museum (Miami, FL).

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Olivia Ives-Flores lives and works in Boston, MA. In her most recent work, she uses pen and ink to create playful imagery as a caricature of the connection between heritage, family, and the influence of corporate practices. Her work has been included in recent exhibitions at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts (Boston, MA), Massachusetts College of Art and Design (Boston, MA) and The Garden of Curiosity (Bryant Park, NYC).

Carlos Martiel (b. 1989, Havana, Cuba) is based in New York, NY. He is a performance artist who engages in complex performances that develop similarly to rituals, in which he exposes his naked form and challenges commonly perceived limits of the human body. His performances are visceral statements that respond to the human condition under difficult situations, such as censorship, or persecution for cultural or political reasons. He has presented solo exhibitions and performances with The Historical Center (Guadalajara, Mexico), Samsøñ (Boston, MA), Robert Miller Gallery (New York, NY), Bruce High Quality Foundation (New York, NY), MAAS | Mandragoras Art Space (New York, NY), Steve Turner Contemporary (Los Angeles, CA), Nitsch Museum (Naples, Italy) and Contemporary Art Center (Havana, Cuba).

Gabriel Martinez (b. 1967, Miami, FL) is a Cuban-American native of Miami, Florida, working with photography, performance and installation. Martinez's practice is primarily based in Philadelphia, PA, as well as Miami and New York. His recent work focuses on the nude male form and utilizes imagery from "Boys in the Sand", the seminal Fire Island gay art film directed by Wakefield Poole. Recent solo exhibitions have been presented by The Print Center (Philadelphia, PA), Samsøñ (Boston, MA), Sol Mednick Gallery at the University of the Arts (Philadelphia, PA), the Socrates Sculpture Park (NY), Scope Art Fair (Lincoln Center, NY) and the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PA).

The exhibition will culminate with an ArtWeek Boston event on Thursday, October 6th, where Co|So and Spirio – Steinway & Son's latest player piano – will have a night of piano music in the gallery, featuring a performance by a Steinway artist.

The Copley Society of Art (Co|So), America's oldest non-profit arts organization, is committed to the advancement, enjoyment, and promotion of its member artists and the visual arts. Co|So is delighted to be working with Camilø Álvarez to bring Cuban art to the Boston art scene, introducing patrons and visitors to new concepts and foreign culture.

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Please contact the gallery for more high-resolution images – 617.536.5049
Please visit our website, www.copleysociety.org, to view images from the full exhibition.