

WILLIAMS CARMONA

MORE WAS LOST IN CUBA / MAS SE PERDIÓ EN CUBA

JUNE 16TH – JULY 16TH, 2016

HG Contemporary is proud to present a solo exhibition featuring Cuban artist Williams Carmona. Entitled "More Was Lost in Cuba / Mas Se Perdió en Cuba," Williams Carmona will present a diverse selection of works that include sculptures, paintings, drawings, installations, and ink drawings, each work meticulously conceptualized to reflect the artist's current state of mind.

Williams Carmona was born in La Habana, Cuba in 1967 and studied at the Universidad de Bellas Artes in La Habana, Cuba. Like many of his contemporary colleagues, he decided to leave Cuba in the 1990s because of the strict restriction he felt on his artistic freedoms, especially concerning his social, cultural, and economic world views.

His search for his own artistic values in the midst of the constricting attitude of the country was the turning point that caused him to search for greater perspective and the freedom to express himself as he desired.



"More Was Lost in Cuba / Mas Se Perdió en Cuba," 2016

Carmona states of his work, "A very frequent theme in my work is the now-commonplace Cuban diaspora, which I portray with a full sense of patriotic responsibility. The "balseros" (drifters at sea), the displaced, the immigrants, whatever their motivation, the ones who return because they have no choice, and other related themes that I have made my own, are all predominant in my artistic vision. The ones who are to blame for everything that's going on in the world right now are more like tragic clowns or caricatures of times bygone, the interpersonal relations and the morality of earlier epochs are dwindling, as is our preoccupation with our fellow men. As a conscious creator, I see no borders in the psychological or moral hierarchies as they stand in today's world. A rumba, or a guaguanco, an Adam, or an Eve, it's all the same. It no longer matters what you represent to others, you can shape yourself to be who you want or aspire to be."

Carmona's early works were large in size and expressionistic, but his newer works have evolved into his new style of expression which he has dubbed "Tropical Surrealism," which incorporates a new form of universal history, more intimate and compact in size. Wherever there is an important historical occurrence, he creates a reflective parody of the people and hidden events within the occurrence in an incisive way.

Since 1999 Carmona has lived and worked in Puerto Rico, exhibiting at various galleries, museums, and in curated exhibitions. His works have made their place to the homes of art collectors in America, Europe, and South America.

In 1996 Carmona was honored with a solo exhibition in his new home country of Puerto Rico at the Museum of the Americas in San Juan. In the same year Carmona was also invited to participate in the collective exposition of highly regarded Latin American masters at the Long Island Museum of Art in New York, featuring artists like Frida Kahlo, Fernando Botero, Leonora Carrington, Luis Cruz-Azaceta, Wilfredo Lam, Diego Rivera, Ruffino Tamayo, and many others. He has had works auctioned at many auction houses including Christie's, Sotheby's, and Phillips.

Carmona has dedicated this exhibition to his daughter Lola, wife Michaela, and his Godmother Dolores Smithies.

"More was Lost in Cuba/ Mas Se Perdió en Cuba" will run through July 16th, 2016 and the opening reception for the show will be held on June 16th, from 6 to 9 pm.

To RSVP for the opening reception please email RSVP@hgcontemporary.com