

# ¿soy Cuba?

**8 contemporary artists**  
**from October 13 to November 19, 2017**  
**Palazzina dei Bagni Misteriosi**  
**Via Carlo Botta, 18 - 20135 Milan**

With its freshness and vital energy, **the new generation of Cuban art invades the Palazzina dei Bagni Misteriosi at the Franco Parenti Theatre in Milan** and inaugurates its exhibition space, offering the city of Milan yet another contemporary cultural offering. **From Friday ,13 October, ¿soy Cuba?** will tell of the new Cuban identity, and what it means today to be the protagonists of profound cultural change. The question of the title of the exhibition is inspired - not by chance - by the film "Soy Cuba" by Mikhail Kalatozov, who in 1964 re-examined the search for a new identity that had accompanied the revolution against Fulgencio Batista.

The exhibition is based on an idea by Marina Nissim, in collaboration with Galleria Continua and the Pier Lombardo Association, and is curated by Laura Salas Redondo. Through pictorial, performance, photographic and site-specific installations, **¿soy Cuba?** is a choral reflection on the current historical Cuban context and the commitment of an entire generation that has decided to keep its roots secure while at the same time break free isolation and travel to create dialogue with the global artistic community. To leave and return to build a new framework of a time and space reference, new coordinates to rethink the processes of building the Cuban cultural identity.

**Eight artists were chosen to represent this new revolution**, whose research takes shape through a multitude of different subjects, materials, languages and styles. The paintings, photographs and original work by **Alejandro Campins**, made ad hoc for i Bagni Misteriosi; **Elizabet Cerviño**, her reflections on words, fragments of meaning and her paintings; the video installation *Paranoia* by **Susana Pilar Delahante**, with a focus aimed at the public to speak of how each of us is a potential target of violence; **Leandro Feal**, and his Instagram profile, where for years he has witnessed how the nightlife, meetings, and customs of Cuban society change; **Oswaldo González** will create relationships with space and objects with his work in Scotch tape, simple actions and relationships with everyday utensils that become artistic drivers; paintings by **Luis Enrique López**, who will also bring his performance *Otro Juego de Piscina* to the inauguration, to be then represented in photographic and film form within the exhibition;

# ¿soy Cuba?

photographs by **Reynier Leyva Novo** and the installation *El beso de Cristal*, where the long row of silk-screened drinking glasses with the chronological succession of US Presidents will meet drinking glasses that represent Cuban Presidents. The two files end with Presidents who have made their mark in recent history, Raul Castro and Barack Obama, Obama, with this work the artist looked forward to this event for a year; and finally *Suelo Autoctono* by **José Yaque**, which will fuse the Italian land and books, as an archaeological discovery in that which lies underneath the Palazzina.

The exhibition will feature the exclusive contribution of **Carlos Garaicoa** and **Pascale Marthine Tayou**, who will create two special projects, two touches, like two strokes of colour that will enrich the sense of the exhibition.

**¿Soy Cuba?** is a journey into the new Cuban identity, a project that speaks of the contemporary artistic movements of a land with fertile soil as regards innovative productions.

## DATE

13 October - 19 November 2017

Exhibition venue

Palazzina dei Bagni Misteriosi of the Franco

Parenti Theatre

Via Carlo Botta 18 – Milan

[www.francoparenti.com](http://www.francoparenti.com)

## PRESS OFFICE

Mara Vitali Comunicazione

Mara Vitali

[mara@mavico.it](mailto:mara@mavico.it)

tel. 02 70108230

Lisa Oldani

[lisa@mavico.it](mailto:lisa@mavico.it)

tel. 349 4788358

## OPENING HOURS

Everyday from 4 to 9pm

Tickets

Full 8 euro

Reduced 6 euro

## ARTISTS' BIO

### Alejandro Campins

Born in 1981 in Manzanillo, Cuba. He currently lives and works in Havana. With a degree from the Higher Institute of Art (ISA), Campins participated in many personal and group exhibitions both in Cuba and abroad. His medium is mainly painting, but photography and design are equally important ways through which Campins develops his creativity.

### Elizabet Cerviño

Born in 1986 in Manzanillo, Cuba. She currently lives and works in Havana. She attended the Higher Institute of Art (ISA) in Havana. In her work, poetry and performance are fundamental.

### Leandro Feal

Born in 1986 in Havana, Cuba, where he lives and works. He studied at Cátedra Arte de Conducta, created by Tania Bruguera, and has a degree from the Istituto Superiore de Arte (ISA). Photography is the means through which Feal has chosen to express his art.

### Oswaldo González

Born in 1982 in Camagüey, Cuba, currently living and working in Havana. With a degree from the Higher Institute of Art (ISA), he uses Scotch tape as the main material for his installations, but painting and drawing are two forms art also used in his work.

### Luis López-Chávez

Born in 1988 in Manzanillo, Cuba, and currently lives and works in Havana. He studied at the Higher Institute of Art (ISA) in Havana, Cuba and in the Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm. His work is a research on the plastic form through different medias.

### Reynier Leyva Novo

Born in 1983, in Havana, Cuba, where he lives and works. He attended the Higher Institute of Art (ISA) (studies not completed) and the Catedra de Arte de Conducta created by artist Tania Bruguera.

### Susana Pilar

Born in 1984 in Havana, where she lives and works. She graduated from the Higher Institute of Art in Havana (ISA) and did postgraduate studies at the Karlsruhe University of Arts and Design (HfG) with DAAD scholarship. Susana's elaborately staged productions featuring herself as a corpse are part of a long tradition of artists self-portraits.

### José Yaque

Born in 1985 in Manzanillo, Cuba, currently living and working in Havana. He graduated from the Higher Institute of Art in Havana (ISA) and has participated in numerous collective and individual exhibitions in Cuba and abroad.

## INVITED ARTISTS

Born in 1967 in Havana, **Carlos Garaicoa** currently lives and works between Havana and Madrid. He studied thermodynamics and later painting at the Instituto Superior de Arte, Havana (1989 - 1994), while developing a multidisciplinary approach to address issues of culture and politics, particularly Cuban, through the study of architecture, urbanism and history.

Born in Nkongsamba, Cameroon in 1966, **Pascale Marthine Tayou** lives and works in Ghent, Belgium and in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The objects, sculptures, installations, drawings and videos produced by Tayou have a recurrent feature in common: they dwell upon an individual moving through the world and exploring the issue of the global village.