

# BEA

BEATRIZ ESGUERRA ART



Booth 725 / 624

January 25-28, 2024



Presenting  
Introspective Landscapes

Colombian artists redefining landscape

Visit online exhibition

## FEATURED ARTISTS



Jairo Llano



Pedro Ruiz



Mario Arroyave



Carlos Nariño



Pablo Arrázola

PRESS RELEASE

## **INTROSPECTIVE LANDSCAPES**

Colombian Artists Redefine Landscape at Art Palm Beach 2024

Embark on a journey where art transcends the ordinary as Beatriz Esguerra Art proudly introduces "Introspective Landscapes" at Art Palm Beach 2024. Immerse yourself in the collective brilliance of five Colombian artists - Pablo Arrázola, Carlos Nariño, Mario Arroyave, Jairo Llano, and Pedro Ruiz - as they redefine the very essence of landscape art. Each stroke, composition, and color within this exhibition serves as a portal, transporting visitors into a mesmerizing alternate reality.

The figurative visual language skillfully employed by these artists constructs metaphoric landscapes inspired by the rich tapestry of their homeland and inner worlds. Together, their works breathe life into poetic compositions, challenging the conventional definition of landscape painting.

Step into BEA's curated booth at Art Palm Beach 2024 and witness the nuanced formal and narrative strategies embraced by these emerging and established Colombian artists. For instance, Pablo Arrázola's hyperrealist portraits of children not only showcase technical mastery but also reveal an experimental creation of landscapes through marks and gestures, inviting contemplation of contemporary life's intricacies.

The exhibition unfolds further as artists utilize painting as a medium to capture their profound impressions. Carlos Nariño's academically oriented landscapes depict expressive skies, evoking a sense of vastness and freedom that resonates with the genre's ability to inspire serenity and silence. Pedro Ruiz, through a series of landscapes centered around organic motifs, navigates wooden riverboats, drawing attention to the destruction of nature and the displacement caused by conflict, juxtaposed with efforts to protect it.

Adding another layer to the narrative, Mario Arroyave and Jairo Llano employ photography to construct landscapes existing solely in their imaginations. Arroyave's work, influenced by physics and computing concepts, explores the body's relationship with space and human interactions over time. Individuals detached from daily routines inhabit vacant spaces, transforming into a landscape composed of human fabrics. Llano's photographs, informed by his training as an architect, imbue landscapes with meanings carried by objects, placing space and volume at the forefront of his compositions.

For over two decades, Beatriz Esguerra Art has passionately championed Colombian contemporary art on both local and international stages. By participating in Art Palm Beach 2024, BEA reaffirms its enduring commitment, once again spotlighting the quality, originality, technical skill, and creativity that characterize Colombian art produced by emerging and established artists. Join us in this celebration of artistic expression and exploration at Art Palm Beach 2024.

PABLO ARRÁZOLA  
Colombia, 1991

In recent years, the boundaries of what drawing is has expanded considerably. Pablo Arrázola participates in this development by juxtaposing two modes of language: the traditional figurative mode, characteristic of descriptive and realistic representation, and the experimental and abstract mode in which paper is manipulated. Arrázola engages with the paper by applying various actions such as cutting, tearing, scratching, scraping, and rubbing. These actions produce lines, textures, and reliefs that transform the white paper into a field of action. By manipulating paper as a tactile material and not using it strictly as a surface, he introduces the physical reality of the third dimension and the imaginary reality of an inhabited environmental space.

In Arrázola's work, the depicted children manifest themselves as independent and complete beings. They invoke the ordering interaction of the world and the transformation of space, characteristic of human beings at any age, through the marks each makes in the environment they inhabit. The paper materializes the metaphor of the blank slate alluding to life's potential. It also constitutes the field of action of homo ludens, the man who plays, creating an equivalence between art and life where the children represented fulfill an alter ego function in performing the artist's actions.

Natalia Vega - Art Historian and Critic

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Pablo Arrázola, Kiko - Composition 2, 2023, graphite on folded and cut cotton paper, 100 x 70 cm.

PEDRO RUIZ  
Colombia, 1957

Pedro Ruiz's work occupies itself with social and political issues that affect countries worldwide. Nature and the concept that it is a force that we cannot control and must live in harmony with, is ever-present in his works. Ruiz has developed four fundamental series through paintings and installations: Love is in the Air, Displacements, Gold, and Colombianas Light.

Pedro Ruiz is today one of Colombia's most important artists. Knighted by the French Government with the Order of the Arts and Letters and Ambassador to Unicef for his strong commitment to translating his artistic messages into social projects, Ruiz has the ability to connect with the public's minds and hearts. In a poetic and aesthetic manner, this artist addresses political and social issues that have affected him, his country and the world: social displacement, the spraying of drug crops and its effect on nature, aggressive mining and destruction of nature by multinational companies and its effect on the rural population and the contrast between urban and rural living, among other themes.

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Pedro Ruiz, Displacement No.285, 2023, acrylic on canvas, ø 130 cm,

CARLOS NARIÑO  
Colombia, 1957

Popularly known as the cloud painter, Carlos Nariño seeks to offer a sense of vastness and freedom in his oil paintings. Through a low horizon, almost on the bottom rim of his canvases, and with a slight strip of land, Nariño's paintings invite one to dream, to play the game of clouds, to fly, to imagine, to enter the poetic homage the artist pays to both Colombian and European landscapes.

Living for the past 30 years in Paris, Carlos Nariño is one of those painters who continues and retains the tradition of a flawless pictorial technique, combining backgrounds, colors and delicate brushstrokes to create works of art with the highest subtlety and quality. Few contemporary artists pursue this type of painting, one with a great sense of aesthetics, composition and love towards a form of expression and theme that are far from disappearing: painting and landscapes.

[MORE INFORMATION ON THE ARTIST](#)



Carlos Nariño, Western Van Goyen Panorama, 2012, oil on canvas, 116 x 89 cm.

JAIRO LLANO  
Colombia, 1979

As a result of his training as an architect, Jairo Llano believes that space is the ideal vessel for any metaphor one would care to explore. His relationship with space can be as direct as a relationship with a person, allowing him to abstract the subject matter that is analyzed in his work. If Llano had to describe his photography in a single word, it would be IDENTITY, for that is what every one of his projects investigates. Each series responds to questions the artist asks himself regarding to “what he wants to be” as opposed to “what he should be.”

His works address subjects such as the creation of boundaries, the new meanings that objects bring into a landscape and the creation of memories, trails, and artifacts. In this documentation of paper sculptures, Llano concentrated on the playful task of creating an arrangement that can only be shared through images. The tension of papers next to each other breaks their original shapes and changes constantly. Photography is the witness of an instant in the movement of these elements.

[VIEW INTERVIEW WITH THE ARTIST](#)

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Jairo Llano, *Who's the Dancer?*, 2022, digital print,  
70 x 100 cm.



MARIO ARROYAVE  
Colombia, 1983

Arroyave's work arises from a combination of physics and computing concepts, exploring the body's relationship with space and the human interactions that occur over time. It captures social and archetypal patterns through an angular lens, detaching individuals from their defining daily interactions and placing them in vacant spaces where time disappears, transforming them into a great human fabric. With this, he portrays humanity from an elevated perspective.

In contrast to exploring humanity as a macro-system, Arroyave develops intimate dialogues and generates immersive works that encourage introspection, thus proposing a conversation between macro and micro that seeks to blur the binary difference and show the eternal evolution in which we are immersed.

#### MAKONDE

The series "Makonde" is a homage to the Makonde tribe of Tanzania, whose secret pilgrimage down the Ruvuma River allowed it to avoid colonialism for various centuries. Inspired by the tribe's Trees of Life, sculptural pieces that represent cycles of life and death, Arroyave created photographic compositions using the animal fauna that accompanied the Makonde tribe throughout their history as a nomadic tribe. Inspired by the manner in which the tribe survived by working with nature and supporting each other across generations, the artist wishes to highlight issues of community and respect of nature.

[VIEW INTERVIEW WITH THE ARTIST](#)

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Mario Arroyave, Leopard Tree, 2016, giclée print on metallic paper, 110 x 90 cm

# ART FAIR PARTICIPATION 2019-2023

## 2019

Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, TX  
Artbo, Bogota, Colombia

## 2020 - All Virtual

Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, TX  
Artbo, Bogota, Colombia  
Art Miami, Miami, FL  
Art Palm Beach, Palm Beach, FL

## 2021

Art on Paper, New York, NY  
Artbo, Bogota, Colombia  
Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, TX

## 2022

LA Art Show, Los Angeles, CA  
Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, TX  
Art on Paper, New York, NY  
Artbo, Bogota, Colombia

## 2023

LA Art Show, Los Angeles, CA  
Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, TX

## 2024

Art Palm Beach Fair, Palm Beach, FL  
Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, TX  
Artbo, Bogota, Colombia

# CONTACT, LINKS AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

**Link** to our online exhibition.

Download press images **here**. For additional information or an appointment, please contact Beatriz Esguerra by **phone** or **email**.

Find more information on Beatriz Esguerra Art and its director **here**.

## **Beatriz Esguerra**

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