

CINTAS Foundation Announces 2018-19 Fellows in Architecture & Design, Music Composition and Visual Arts

Miami, October 2018 – CINTAS Foundation Board of Directors made the announcement at the annual Awards Ceremony during a special reception held October 10th at the Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami. The 2018-19 Fellowships were presented to:

CINTAS Foundation Fellowship in Architecture & Design
Javier Galindo

CINTAS Foundation Brandon Fradd Fellowship in Music Composition
Sabrina Peña Young

CINTAS-Knight Foundation Fellowship in Visual Arts
Tomás Esson

In addition, a Lifetime Achievement Award was given to **Juan A. Martínez, Ph.D.**, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Art & Art History at Florida International University for his contributions to Cuban art and culture. It marks the first time that CINTAS has honored and recognized an academic in the field.

The reception, with sponsorships from Bacardi as well as El Carajo restaurant, was attended by over 200 guests including finalists, fellow artists, colleagues, collectors, and family and friends of those honored that evening.

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN:

Javier Galindo is an architect and designer based in New York City. He was born and raised in Havana, Cuba.

His practice investigates the role of impermanence and fragmentation in architectural discourse and expression. Using form and color as allegorical instruments, the work aims to produce incomplete, ambiguous and simultaneous readings, accompanied by sublime effects.

Galindo has been the recipient of the 2015 Rome Prize in Architecture from the American Academy in Rome, the KPF Traveling Fellowship, and several competition awards and recognitions. His professional experience includes time as Senior Associate Principal and Lead Designer at Kohn Pedersen Fox in New York, working in the design and construction phases of several national and international urban projects, ranging from super-tall towers, residential and commercial mixed-use buildings and masterplans. He has also practiced professionally in other design firms in Miami and San Francisco.

As an assistant instructor at Cornell University, Galindo has taught Visual Studies and Representation courses. He is often an invited lecturer and guest critic and his work has been featured in several publications including *A+U*, *Concept Magazine* and *Threshold* journals. He received a Masters of Architecture from Cornell University, where he was the recipient of the Best Thesis Prize, and a Bachelors of Architecture from FIU in Miami.

MUSIC COMPOSITION:

Sabrina Peña Young became involved with SYCOM (Systems Complex for the Recording and Performing Arts), an experimental enclave of composers and media artists while at University of South Florida in Tampa in 2000. She worked with Emmy-winning director Charles Lyman at Atlantic Productions before leaving Tampa to study music technology at Florida International University in Miami in 2003.

Combining her love of music and love of science fiction imagery, in 2011 Young received a New Genre Award from the International Alliance for Women in Music for her futuristic multimedia oratorio *Creation*. In 2012 Young composed scores for Emmy-winning Rob Cabrera's animated short *Monica* (2012) and Sean Fleck's time-laps film *Americana*. Wanting to explore film further, Sabrina Peña Young began production on *Libertaria: The Virtual Opera*, a science fiction machinima opera produced entirely online. In 2013 *Libertaria: The Virtual Opera* was premiered in Lake Worth, Florida. In 2014, Young gave a TED Talk at TEDxBuffalo on "Singing Geneticists and EPIC Machinima Opera". In 2015 Young published her debut novel *Libertaria: Genesis* as an addendum to her groundbreaking opera and collaborated with composer Lee Scott on his interactive social media opera *The Village*. Young is currently writing her third novel in the *Libertaria Chronicles* series and is in preproduction for the children's opera *Alicia and the White Rabbit*, and in preproduction for her second feature length sci-fi animated film. Young is a member of the New York Women Composer's Association, the International Alliance for Women in Music, Madrinas, Vox Novus, and the Buffalo Movie and Video Makers.

VISUAL ARTS:

Tomás Esson, nicknamed El Bicho, was born in Marianao, Cuba. He spent several years working living and working in New York before moving to Miami, Florida in 2000. He studied at the Academia de Artes Plásticas San Alejandro, as well as the Instituto Superior de Arte in Cuba. Esson's art has been featured in solo and group exhibitions internationally since the 1980's and can be found in collections around the world. They include the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York; the Ludwig Forum for Internationale Kunst in Aachen, Germany; the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in Chicago; the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo in Monterrey, México; the Pérez Art Museum in Miami; and the Hirshorn Museum & Sculpture Garden in Washington D.C.; among numerous others. His work consists of "tormented, mythological beings, erogenous plant life, and other motifs that populate his art" as described by Janet Batet in *A Fertile Universe: Tomás Esson's Miami Flow* (Cuba Art News, April 2017).

About the CINTAS Fellowship Program

The CINTAS Fellowship Program encourages creative development in architecture & design, creative writing, music composition and the visual arts. The Foundation was established with funds from the estate of Oscar B. Cintas (1887-1957), former Cuban ambassador to the United States, a prominent industrialist and patron of the arts. The CINTAS Fellows Collection is comprised of nearly 300 pieces by artists of Cuban descent who have received prestigious CINTAS Fellowships, awarded since 1963. The Fellows range from masters José Mijares, Mario Carreño, Carmen Herrera, Carlos Alfonzo, to Felix González-Torres, María Martínez-Cañas, Teresita Fernández, Pulitzer Prize winner Oscar Hijuelos, multiple-Obie winner María Elena Fornes, architect Andres Duany, Latin Grammy finalist composer Tania León and many others. Visit www.cintasfoundation.org

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For more information about the CINTAS program, please contact Laurie Escobar at info@cintasfoundation.org