

For immediate release
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Cintas Foundation Announces Lydia Rubio Gift

Miami (February 6, 2007) - The Cintas Foundation is pleased to announce the acquisition of a major work by the artist Lydia Rubio. *Alarcolira*, a three-dimensional large-scale piece, which was donated this week by Miss Rubio and will be held by the Frost Art Museum at Florida International University, where the Cintas Fellows Collection is managed.

Lydia Rubio, born in Havana and a resident of Miami, was trained as an architect at the University of Florida and attended the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. She received a Cintas Foundation Fellowship in the Visual Arts in 1981.

The critic Valerie Gladstone offered this description of Rubio's work in *ARTnews*: "Rubio brings to painting a calligraphic skill that intensifies and delineates her every image. Buildings, landscape, and geometry are the channels through which she presents her kaleidoscopic and refreshingly iconoclastic view of the world."

Rubio has been a professor and lecturer in design at the University of Puerto Rico, Harvard University, Parsons School of Design, Miami-Dade College and the New World School for the Arts in Miami. She has frequent solo exhibitions in galleries throughout the United States and has participated in numerous group shows, including *Unbroken Ties: Dialogues in Cuban Art* at the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach, California, and *No Show* at the Fred Snitzer Gallery in Miami. Her work is in many permanent collections, including those of the Museum of Art in Fort Lauderdale and the City of Orlando. Along with the Cintas Foundation Fellowship in the Visual Arts, she has received numerous grants, including the 2006 Pollock Krasner Foundation Fellowship.

Alarcolira, created in 2001, is part of Rubio's *Room of Migration* series. The 10-foot high multi-media piece was exhibited at the prestigious Bernice Steinbaum Gallery and the Bass Museum of Art. *Alarcolira* is an oil painting on a triangular panel with a protruding aluminum wing. Rubio's distinctive shading and painting technique, along with the decorative wing, elegantly brings the painting to life.

"We are very pleased to accept this gracious gift from Ms. Rubio. The *Alarcolira* will be a valuable addition to an already extensive collection of contemporary Cuban art," said Hortensia Sampedro, Cintas Foundation Board President.

Rubio has recently been commissioned to create two large-scale metal sculptures and architectural interventions for the Raleigh-Durham Airport Passenger Terminals. She is also working on a major outdoor public work for The Women's Park in Miami-Dade County.

The Cintas Foundation was established with funds from the estate of Oscar B. Cintas (1887-1957), former Cuban ambassador to the United States and a prominent industrialist and patron of the arts. Cintas Fellowships encourage creative development in architecture, literature, music composition, and the visual arts. The Cintas Fellowships program is administered by the Cintas Foundation Board and by the Cintas Fellowship Program of the Frost Art Museum of Florida International University. For more information about the Cintas Foundation, please visit www.cintasfoundation.org.

