THE ART & ARCHITECTURE OF HAVANA

LA BIENAL DE LA HABANA

MAY 30th - JUNE 4th, 2015

WITH HOST

AMY SADAO

THE DANIEL W. DIETRICH, II DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
Depart Miami on a scheduled morning flight to Havana. Upon arrival at the José Martí Airport, transfer to the hotel for lunch and check in. After an introductory lecture in the afternoon, visit one of the nearby biennale venues and continue for our welcome dinner at a paladar, a privately owned restaurant often located in the owner’s home.

**HAVANA**

**SUNDAY, MAY 31ST**

Join an architectural historian for a morning lecture followed by a walking tour of Old Havana focusing on the four main squares: Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza Vieja and Plaza de la Catedral. Conclude with lunch at a restaurant located near the cathedral. Spend the afternoon meeting artists and their representatives at Castillo de la Cabaña, a unique opportunity to view some of the most important biennale exhibitions including pieces by both Cuban and foreign artists. Built by the Spaniards in the XVIII century, the fortress has served as the main venue for the Havana Biennale since its first edition in 1984. Return to the hotel for an evening at leisure.

**HAVANA**

**MONDAY, JUNE 1ST**

Gather this morning for a lecture on Cuban current realities by a former ambassador and deputy minister for foreign affairs. Then drive to the small, hilltop village of San Francisco de Paula to visit the house, Finca La Vigía, where Hemingway lived for 20 years. View the rooms of the house through open windows and see the Pilar, his fishing boat, on the grounds. The arts have long presented Cubans with an opportunity to cautiously express their views on society. After lunch, meet some of Havana’s leading artists in their homes and studios, where there may be an opportunity to purchase paintings and drawings. In the evening drive to the Ludwig Foundation for the Arts where we will have a presentation on Cuban Art. The Foundation President will host a cocktail reception and buffet dinner on the penthouse terrace. Invited guests include Cuban artists.

**HAVANA**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 2ND**

After a morning lecture, discover the eclecticism of Havana’s architecture as we drive through modern Vedado and Miramar neighborhoods on the way to Cuba’s leading art school, the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) for an opportunity to interact with professors and students and see their art work. Also called The University of the Arts, ISA features many biennale pieces, including open air displays and installations. Enjoy lunch at artist Jose Fuster’s home and studio in the village of Jaimanitas where he has decorated more than 80 houses with ornate murals and domes to suit the personality of his neighbors. Among the creations are a chess park with giant boards and tables, and an Artists’ Wall composed of a quilt of dozens of tiles signed and donated by other Cuban artists. On the way back to the hotel, visit Pabexpo. Another biennale venue, this pavilion exhibits the artwork of some of the most renowned Cuban artists. In the early evening, we have been invited to a private after-hours tour and reception at the Ceramics Museum, followed by dinner.

**HAVANA**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3RD**

Attend an informal morning rehearsal of the Contemporary Dance Company at Teatro Nacional, adjacent to the Revolution square. Continue to Plaza de la Catedral in Old Havana and walk into the Taller Experimental de Gráfica, an opportunity to meet workers and artists. Founded in 1962 by mural artist Orlando Suárez with the support of Che Guevara, this studio/workshop is still thriving today and is one of the most important graphic arts establishments, preserving the old printmaking techniques. Lunch is at leisure. In the afternoon, visits will be arranged to other galleries and biennale venues. In the evening, enjoy a private concert with an opportunity to chat with the performers, followed by our farewell dinner.

**HAVANA / MIAMI**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH**

Visit the National Museum of Fine Arts for a curatorial tour of its Cuban collection. After lunch in a lively local restaurant, transfer to the airport to check in for the return flight to Miami, arriving in the late afternoon.