



Grace Walters <grace@darrowcontemporary.com>

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## Preview ADAA - Reynier Leyva Novo

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Mónica Hernández <monica@sicardi.com>  
To: grace@darrowcontemporary.com

Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 10:38 AM

Dear Grace:

Here is a preview of the works we will have at The Art Show this year.

I sent an attachment about Novo's exhibition at The Blaffer Museum at The University of Huston. He presented these group of works there.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Regards,  
Mónica

### ***Blind Paintings from the series Mnemosyne's whisper / Pinturas ciegas, de la serie El susurro de Mnemósine***

Following the murder of George Floyd in 2020, many state and local governments have opted for the removal of Confederate monuments, while protesters have toppled or defaced others in public spaces. Most Confederate monuments removed in various locations in the United States belonged to the neoclassical artistic style. This artistic movement developed primarily in the 18th and 19th centuries and sought inspiration from the aesthetics of ancient Greece and Rome. These monuments often featured sculptures of Confederate leaders in heroic poses and attire reminiscent of classical antiquity. Neoclassical columns, pedestals, and architectural details were common, reflecting the influence of classical aesthetics at the time they were erected. *Mnemosyne's Whisper* evokes the idea of unveiling hidden layers to create a connection between a series of paintings and the figure of the Greek goddess of memory, Mnemosyne.

*Mnemosyne's Whisper* is a series of acrylic paintings and drawings on canvas restaging the removal of more than 160 Confederate monuments and memorials in the United States. Scenes from removing a monument are concealed beneath multiple layers of paint. The deliberate use of different shades of blue reflects the atmospheric conditions captured in the source photograph from the media. Novo meticulously selects a single pixel from the same sky and replicates the color palette in the painting process. Executed sequentially, each layer of paint covers the previous one until the images are entirely covered and erased.

These paintings are intentionally designed to be photographed with infrared light, revealing nuances not evident in the abstract representation. The wall-mounted paintings are accompanied by 1:1 scale printed infrared photographs of the artwork itself. The digital infrared imaging technique provides a layered view of the entire composition in a single image. Stephan Hanley, Conservation Imaging Specialist at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, has meticulously captured these infrared images.



**Reynier Leyva Novo**

[1983, Cuba]

*Blind Painting #02 from the series Mnemosyne's Whisper. (Ambrose Powell Hill Jr., Richmond, VA, December 14, 2022), 2023*

Acrylic paint and graphite on canvas, infrared photograph printed on EPSON Cold Press acid free paper, 340 gsm

17 ¾ x 26 ¼ in.

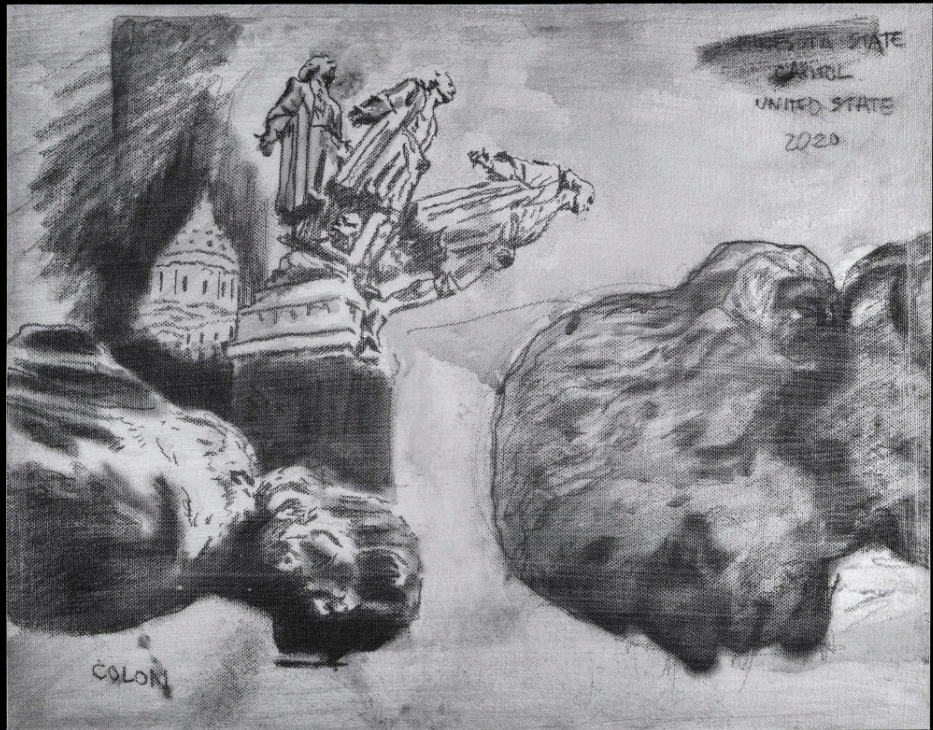
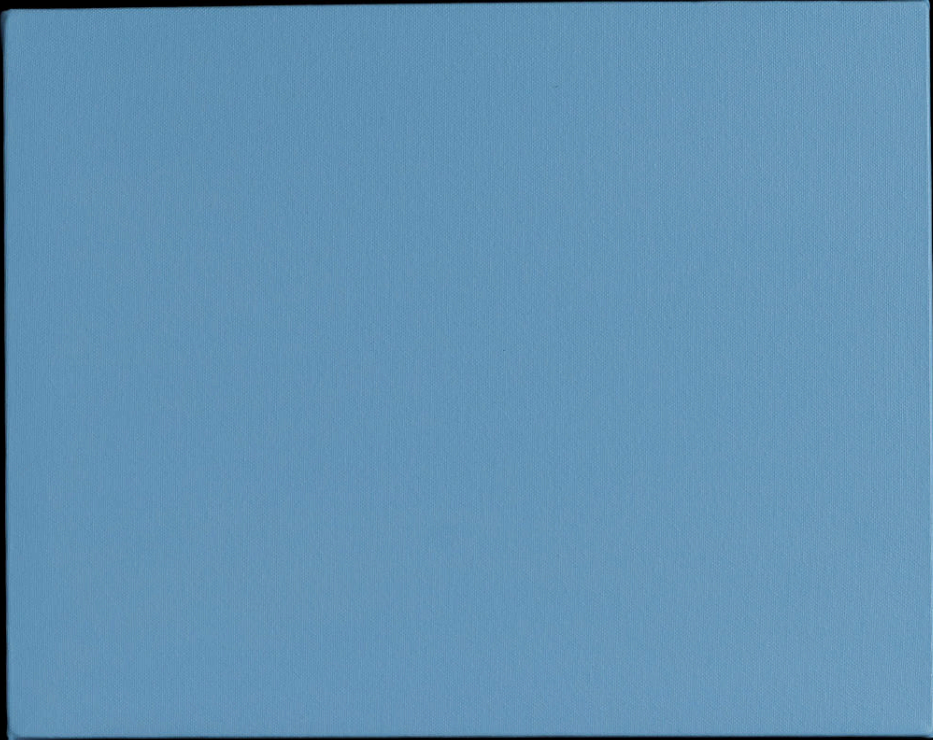
45.1 x 66.7 cm.

(NovoR-133)

\$ 10,000

**Exhibitions**

2024, January 12—March 10. *Reynier Leyva Novo: Former Present Today*. The Blaffer Art Museum at the University of Houston, Texas.



**Reynier Leyva Novo**

[1983, Cuba]

*Blind Painting #01 from the series Mnemosyne's Whisper. (Christopher Columbus Statue, Minnesota State Capitol, June 10, 2020),*  
2023

Acrylic paint and graphite on canvas, infrared photograph printed on EPSON Cold Press acid free paper, 340 gsm

26 ¼ x 17 ¾ in.

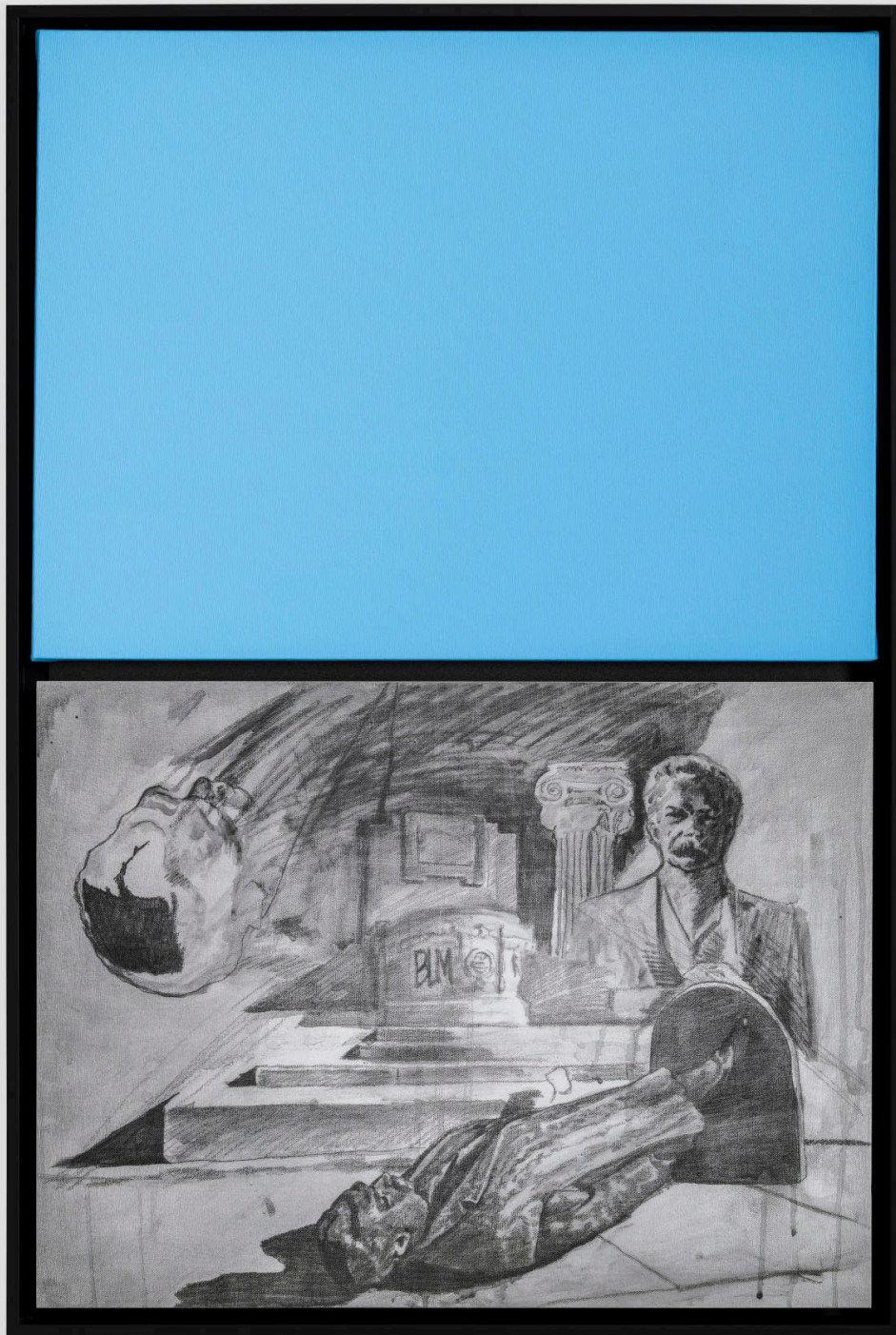
66.7 x 45.1 cm.

(NovoR-132)

\$ 14,000

**Exhibitions**

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**Reynier Leyva Novo**

[1983, Cuba]

*Blind Painting #04* from the series *Mnemosyne's Whisper*. (Edward Ward Carmack, Nashville, TN, 2020), 2023  
Acrylic paint and graphite on canvas, infrared photograph printed on EPSON Cold Press acid free paper, 340 gsm  
38 ¼ x 25 ¾ in.  
97.2 x 65.4 cm.  
(NovoR-135)

\$ 18,000

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**Reynier Leyva Novo**

[1983, Cuba]

*Blind Painting #10 from the series Mnemosyne's Whisper. (Cristobal Colon, Boston, MA, 2020), 2023*

Acrylic paint and graphite on canvas, infrared photograph printed on EPSON Cold Press acid free paper, 340 gsm

74 ½ x 61 ¾ in.

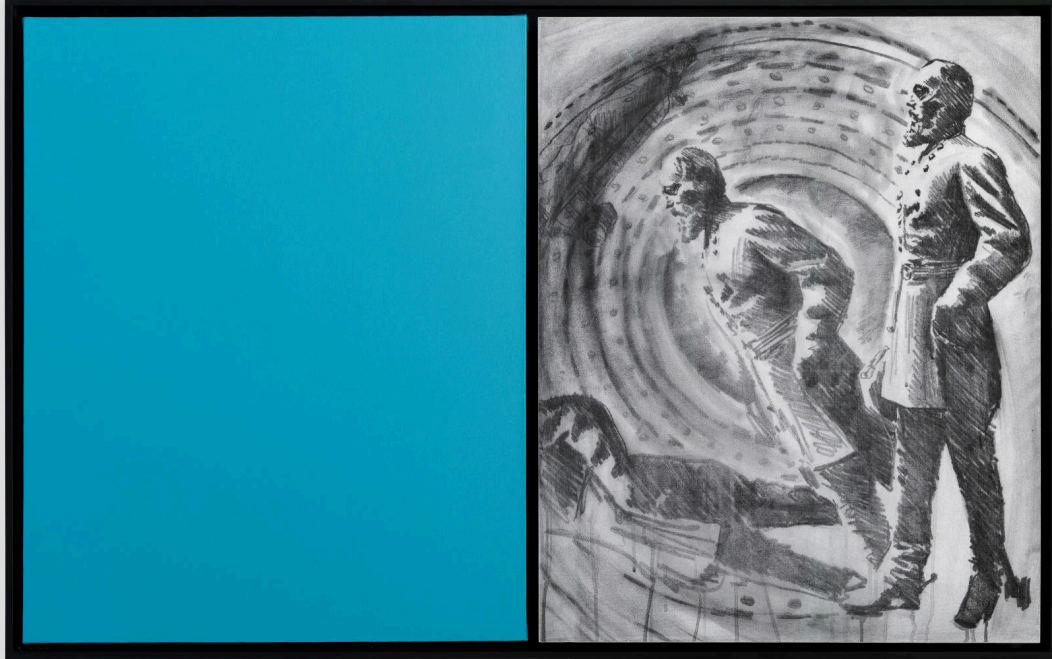
189.2 x 156.8 cm.

(NovoR-141)

\$ 22,000

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**Reynier Leyva Novo**

[1983, Cuba]

*Blind Painting #08 from the series Mnemosyne's Whisper. (Edmund Kirby Smith, United States Capitol, 2021), 2023*

Acrylic paint and graphite on canvas, infrared photograph printed on EPSON Cold Press acid free paper, 340 gsm

31 3/4 x 50 1/4 in.

80.6 x 127.6 cm.

(NovoR-139)

\$ 18,000

**Exhibitions**

2024, January 12—March 10. *Reynier Leyva Novo: Former Present Today*. The Blaffer Art Museum at the University of Houston, Texas.



**Reynier Leyva Novo**

[1983, Cuba]

*Blind Painting #06 from the series Mnemosyne's Whisper. (Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate, Kentucky State Capitol, June 13, 2020), 2023*

Acrylic paint and graphite on canvas, infrared photograph printed on EPSON Cold Press acid free paper, 340 gsm

31 ¾ x 50 ¼ in.

80.6 x 127.6 cm.

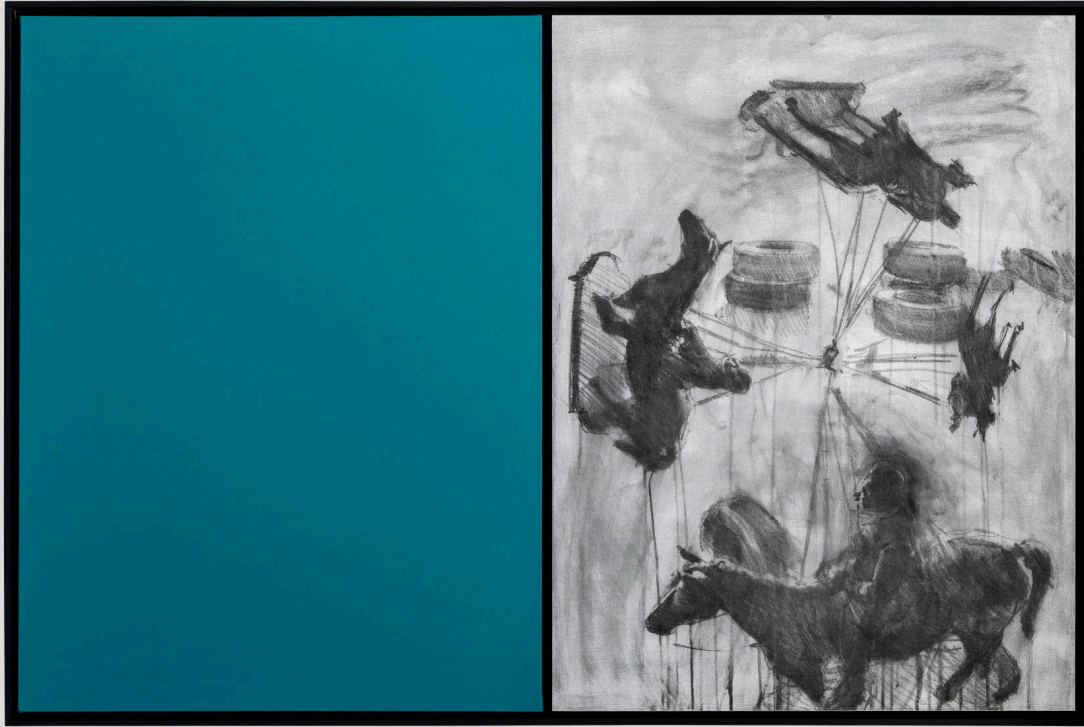
(NovoR-137)

\$ 18,000

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**Reynier Leyva Novo**

[1983, Cuba]

*Blind Painting #09 from the series Mnemosyne's Whisper. (Stonewall Jackson loaded on a truck after being removed from Monument Avenue in Richmond, Virginia, 2020), 2023*

Acrylic paint and graphite on canvas, infrared photograph printed on EPSON Cold Press acid free paper, 340 gsm

41 ¾ x 62 ½ in.

106 x 158.8 cm.

(NovoR-140)

\$ 20,000

**Exhibitions**

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