



EMBAJADA

**The Armory Show
September 6–8, 2024**

**Radamés Juni Figueroa & Edra Soto
Booth #P31**

**Claudia Peña Salinas
Armory Offsite at the US Open**

Edra Soto & Radamés Juni Figueroa

EMBAJADA presents new work by Puerto Rican artists Edra Soto and Radamés “Juni” Figueroa. The presentation celebrates the occasion of Edra Soto’s Public Art Fund exhibition at the Doris C. Freedman Plaza, inaugurating September 4, during The Armory Show 2024.

Modernity has the habit of taking credit for many ideas that predate it...I challenge this narrative and invite the public to reconsider the origins of what we often assume are Puerto Rican motifs. — Edra Soto

Through a sculptural language utilizing fragments of Puerto Rican postwar architecture, Soto expresses personal experience navigating the Puerto Rican diaspora that instigates relevant and often difficult conversations surrounding socioeconomic and cultural oppression. Likewise, Juni Figueroa dissects his identity as a Puerto Rican artist. His practice investigates ideas concerning tropical architecture through a mix of personal references and critical humor. Utilizing a visual language made up of wide-ranging cultural cues and inside jokes, Figueroa considers what it means to exist in the dichotomy that makes up contemporary Puerto Rico, a metaphor that can be applied to the island’s larger social and political complexities. Together the artists’ practices narrate a quotidian Puerto Rican experience challenging and redefining assumed cultural identities.

Edra Soto

(b. Puerto Rico) Living in Chicago since 1997



Edra Soto's architectural practice instigates meaningful, relevant, and often difficult conversations surrounding socioeconomic and cultural oppression, erasure of history, and loss of cultural knowledge. Having grown up in Puerto Rico, and now immersed in her Chicago community, the artist has evolved to raise questions through her work about constructed social orders, diasporic identity, and the legacy of colonialism.

Edra Soto is an interdisciplinary artist and co-director of the outdoor project space The Franklin. Recent venues presenting Soto's work include Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art's satellite, The Momentary (Arkansas); Albright-Knox Northland (New York); El Museo del Barrio (New York); Smart Museum (Illinois); and the Museum of Contemporary Photography (Illinois). Recently, Soto completed the public art commission titled Screenhouse currently at Millennium Park. Soto has attended residency programs at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Beta-Local, the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation Residency, Headlands Center for the Arts, Project Row Houses and Art Omi among others. Soto was awarded the Efromson Contemporary Arts Fellowship, the Illinois Arts Council Agency Fellowship, and the inaugural Foundwork Artist Prize and the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters & Sculptors Grant among others. Between 2019-2020 Soto exhibited and traveled to Brazil, Puerto Rico and Cuba as part of the MacArthur Foundation's International Connections Fund. Soto holds an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a bachelor's degree from Escuela de Artes Plásticas y Diseño de Puerto Rico.



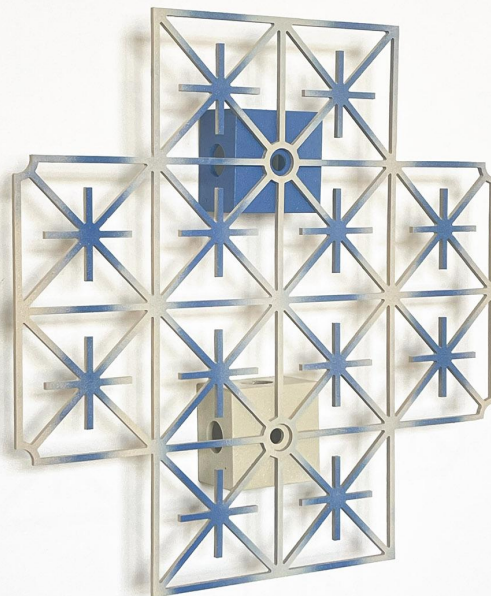
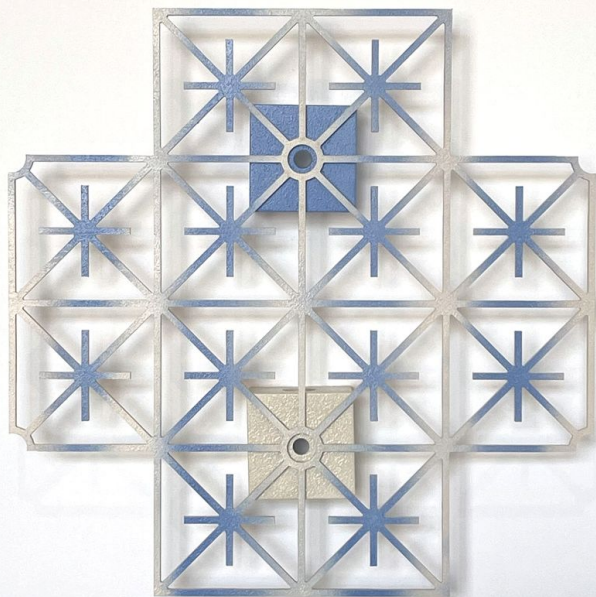
Edra Soto

La leyenda de los 4 vientos (The legend of the 4 winds), 2024

Box fans, PVC, latex, paint, fabric cable cords

62 x 60 x 5 in

\$20,000



Edra Soto

Por la señal (8-24
#2), 2024

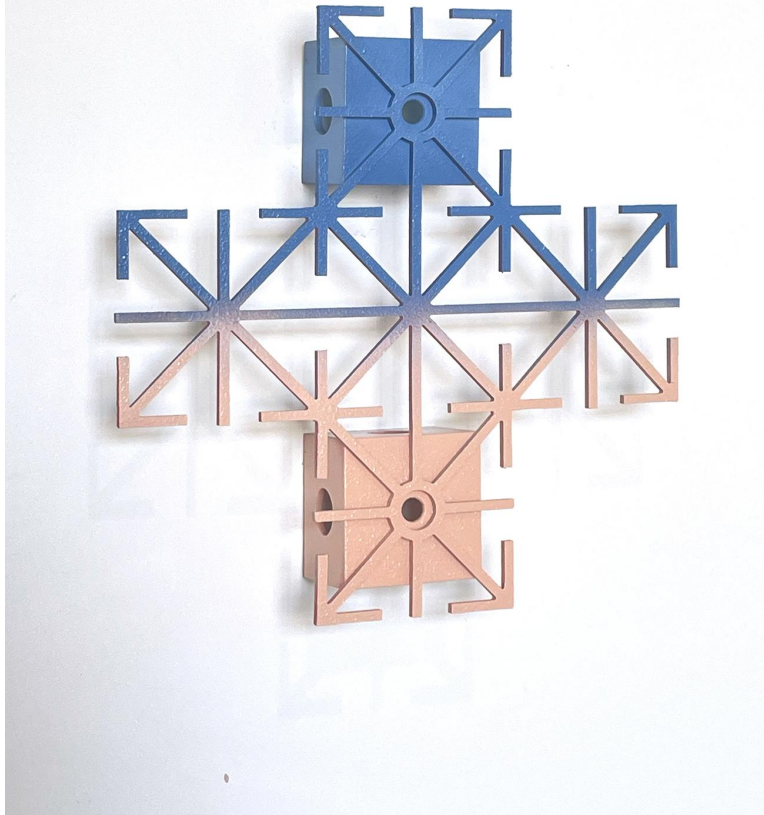
sintra, mdf, latex
paint, viewfinder,
inkjet print

15.75 x 15.75 x 3
inches

\$4,500



Edra Soto
Por la señal
(8-24 #2), 2024
viewfinder
images



Edra Soto

Por la señal (8-24 #1), 2024

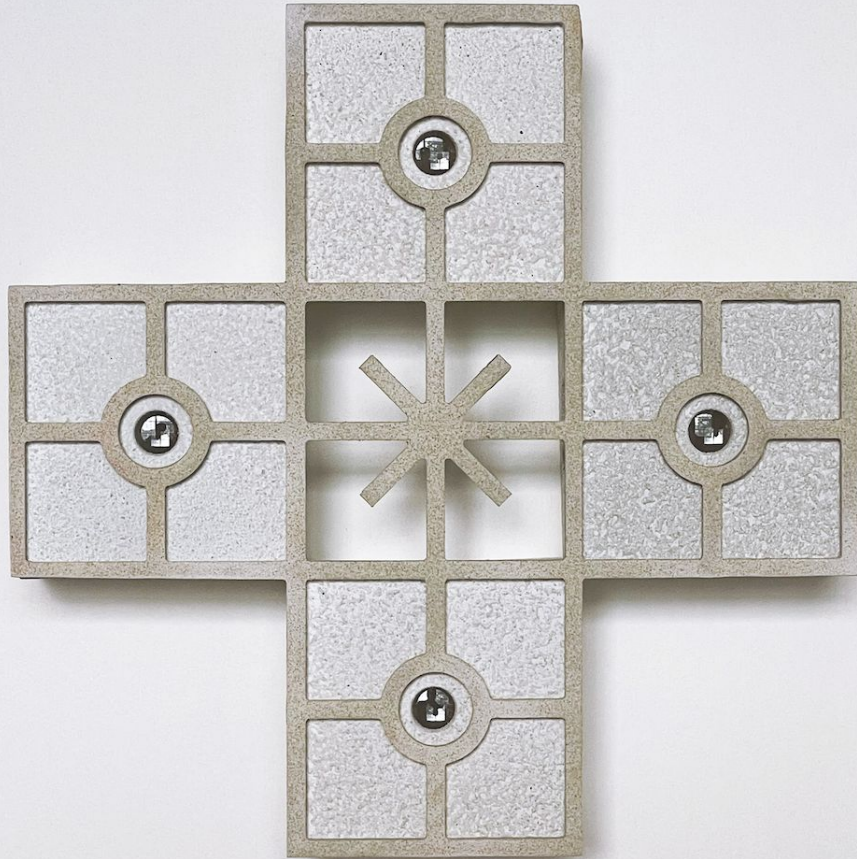
sintra, mdf, latex paint, viewfinder,
inkjet print

15.75 x 15.75 x 3 inches

\$4,000



Edra Soto
Por la señal
(8-24 #1), 2024
viewfinder
images



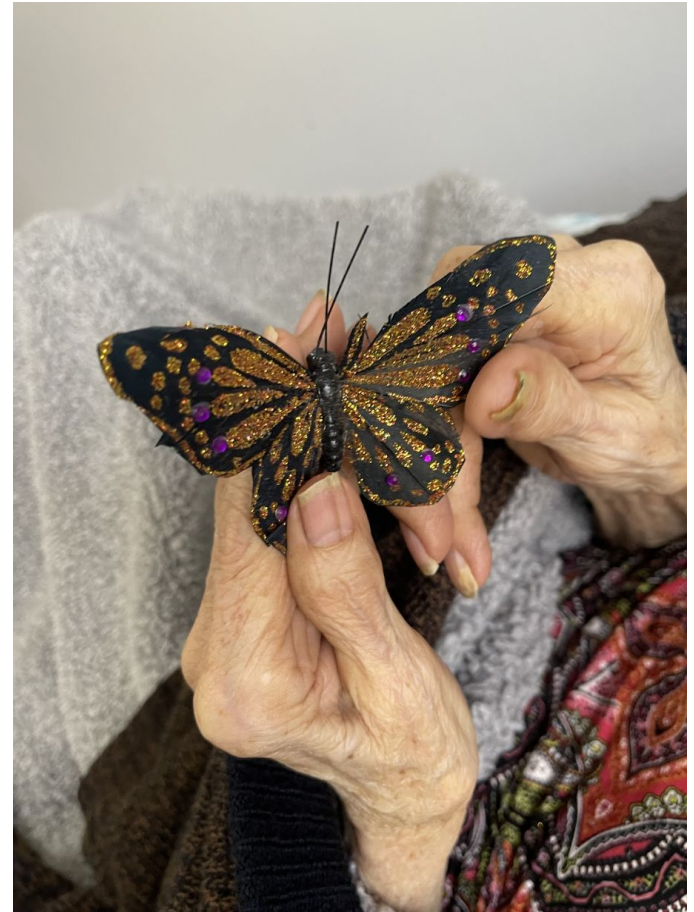
Edra Soto

Por la señal (9 of 11), 2023

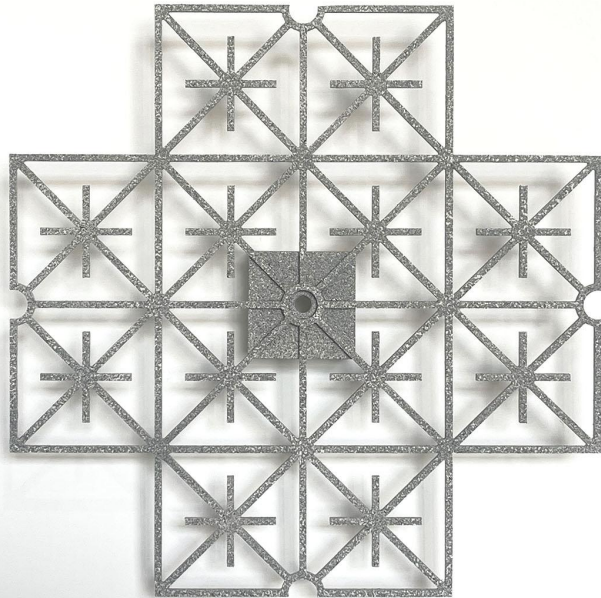
sintra, mdf, latex paint, viewfinder, inkjet print

12 x 12 x 3 in

\$4,000



Edra Soto, *Por la señal* (9 of 11), viewfinder images, 2023

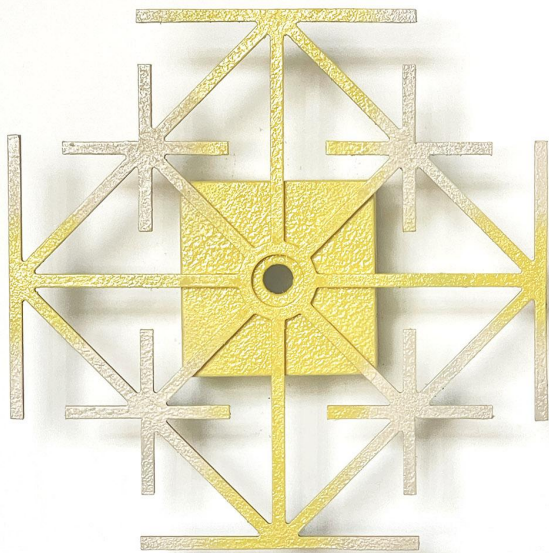


Edra Soto

Por la señal (8-24
#5), 2024

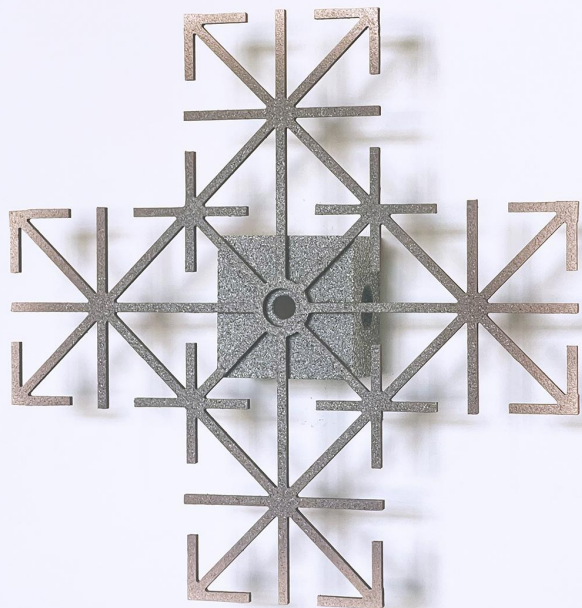
sintra, mdf, latex
paint, viewfinder,
inkjet print
15.75 x 15.75 x 3
inches

\$4,000



Edra Soto
Por la señal (8-24
#4), 2024
sintra, mdf, latex
paint, viewfinder,
inkjet print
15.75 x 15.75 x 3
inches

\$2,500



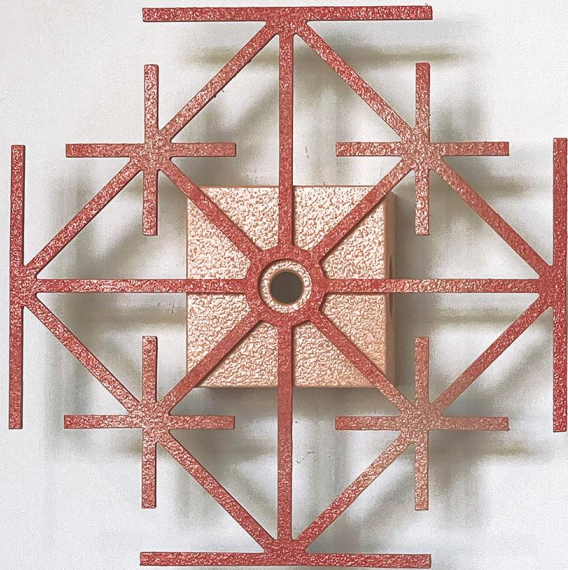
Edra Soto

Por la señal (8-24
#3), 2024

sintra, mdf, latex
paint, viewfinder,
inkjet print

15.75 x 15.75 x 3
inches

\$3,500



Edra Soto
Por la señal (8-24
#6), 2024
sintra, mdf, latex
paint, viewfinder,
inkjet print
15.75 x 15.75 x 3
inches

\$2,500

Radamés “Juni” Figueroa

(b. 1982, Bayamón, Puerto Rico)



Figueroa’s practice investigates ideas concerning tropical architecture through a mix of personal references and critical humor.

Figueroa obtained his BFA in painting from the Escuela de Artes Plásticas (2007) and participated in La Práctica program at Beta Local (2013), San Juan, Puerto Rico. He has been included in notable solo and group museum exhibitions internationally including the University Museum of Albany, NY (2020), Numu at SITE Santa Fe, Santa Fe (2018), North American Peruvian Cultural Institute (IPCNA), Lima (2018), Perez Museum of Art (PAMM), Miami (2017), SculptureCenter, NY (2014), Highline Art, New York (2017), The Whitney Biennial, NY (2014), MALBA Buenos Aires (2014), Kunsthalle Zürich (2012) among many others. In 2011 Figueroa co-curated the Tropical Bienal Tropical in Loíza, Puerto Rico, together with curator Pablo León de la Barra. In 2021 Figueroa won Artissima’s illy Present Future Prize. He was featured in a solo at Art Basel Miami 2023 with Proyectos Ultravioleta, Guatemala City.



Radamés Juni Figueroa

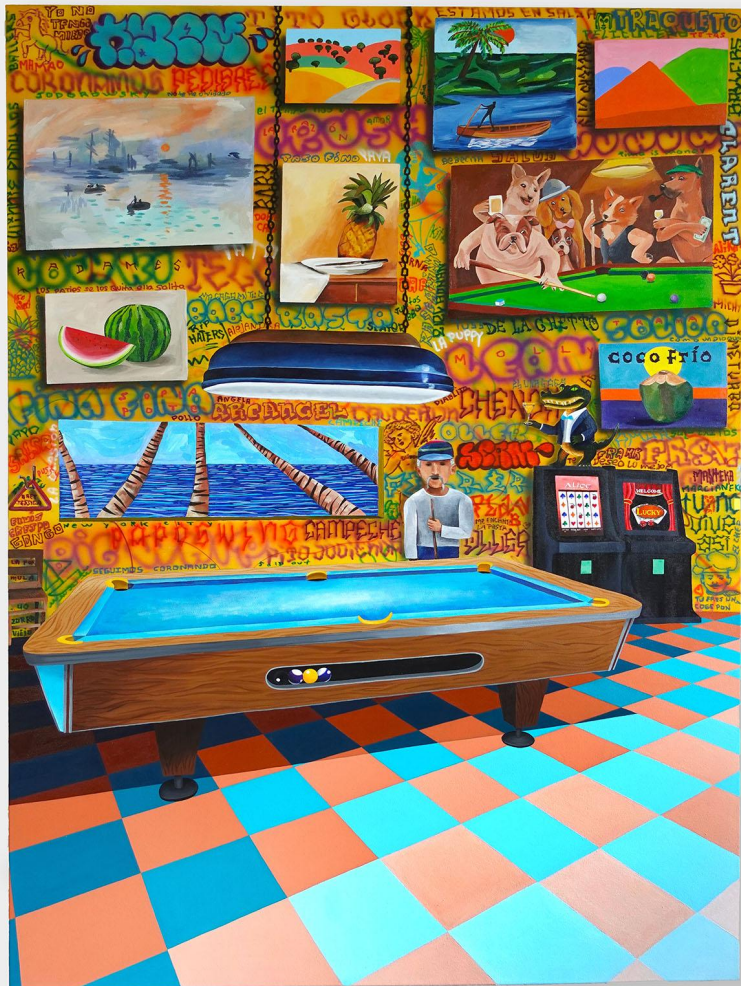
*Chamaco Ramírez at the Nazareno Bar
in Puerta de Tierra, 2024*

Acrylic and airbrush on canvas

72 x 54 inches

\$18,000

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Radamés Juni Figueroa

Not yet titled (*bar 2*), 2024

Acrylic and airbrush on canvas

72 x 54 inches

\$18,000

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Radamés Juni Figueroa

The Lovers lovers on a starry night featuring Paul

Gauguin and Pablo Picasso, 2024

Acrylic and airbrush on canvas

60 x 48 inches

\$14,000

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Radamés Juni Figueroa

Mala Fe is Back (Playa El Portillo, Las Terrenas), 2024

Acrylic and airbrush on canvas

60 x 48 inches

\$14,000

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Radamés Juni Figueroa

Not yet titled (*Mala Fe at night*), 2024

Acrylic and airbrush on canvas

60 x 48 inches

\$14,000

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Claudia Peña Salinas



Claudia Peña Salinas' practice combines sculpture, images, installation, and video to draw connection between the indigenous and the modern. Her ongoing body of work explores Aztec and Mayan mythology to construct poetic narratives. Salinas's multimedia practice is based on her travels throughout Mexico researching sites related to Mesoamerican deities and collecting rocks from neighboring rivers and found objects that are incorporated into her sculpture. The resulting series of which includes *Tetl Mirror I* ("Tetl" meaning rock in the Aztec language, Nahuatl) unites ancestral beliefs with modern and minimalist lines.

Claudia Peña Salinas

(b. 1975, Mexico)



Claudia Peña Salinas' practice combines sculpture, images, installation, and video to draw connection between the indigenous and the modern.

Peña Salinas's first institutional solo exhibition was held in 2018 at MSU's Broad Art Museum, East Lansing, MI. Later that year she was included in the formative Latinx group exhibition at The Whitney Museum (2018) *Pacha, Llaqta, Wasichay: Indigenous Space, Modern Architecture, New Art*. In 2019 she had her second solo exhibition at ASU Art Museum in Tempe, AZ. She has participated in several museum group shows including at the Centre Pompidou, Paris (2019), Queens Museum of Art, New York (2012), El Museo del Barrio, New York (2005), El Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico (2006), and Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico (2019). She will be included in a group exhibition at the Highline in 2021.

Peña Salinas is currently included in ICI's traveling exhibition *Never Spoken Again* curated by David Ayala-Alfonso, *Memory Palace* at the Highline Art in New York and the Depaul Art Museum in Chicago. Peña Salinas lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.



Claudia Peña Salinas

Tetl Mirror I, 2024

Brass, river stone, concrete and concrete stain

70 x 15.5 x 69 inches

\$15,000