Simon Njami







Florence II, 2022

Dagoberto Rodríguez *MARS STORM*

September 15, 2022 - January 28, 2023 Curated By Simon Njami

Miami's Fundación Pablo Atchugarry is pleased to announce *MARS STORM*, an inaugural solo exhibition by one of the most influential and widely recognized Cuban artists of the 21st century, Dagoberto Rodríguez. Curated by Simon Njami, *MARS STORM*, debuts a collection of never-before-seen satellite oil paintings that depict the remains of a fallen world while simultaneously mining an archaeology of the future.

Subject of numerous fantasies illustrated by countless science-fiction narratives, the planet Mars is at the core of Rodriguez's interest, further defined by the insoluble question "Does the red planet represent our future or our past?" "After having colonized the world, humans are dreaming of colonizing the universe. Have they learned their lessons before envisioning such an adventure?" posits, curator, Simon Njami. Positioning the exhibition space as an archaeological site, MARS STORM, reflects on the ineffable state of the human condition as Rodríguez sees it, taking a metaphorical and poetic approach to convey an archeology of the future, wherein the past, the present and the future are interwoven without any delineations.

Paintings of images made possible by way of technological advancements such as NASA's Curiosity Mars rover, the terrestrial planet, devoid of human life and replete with latent potential. An oil painting anthropomorphically titled, Autorretrato (Self-portrait), 2022, bares the image of the rover vehicle at the "Okoruso" drilling site on lower Mount Sharp's "Naukluft Plateau", conjuring possibilities for human "selfies" in-not so distant—futures. Lining the walls of the exhibition, alongside paintings of an unscathed Mars, are massive canvases of satellite imagery of hurricanes and their infrared radars (composed of the artist's signature legos) at their most destructive

EXHIBITION DATE: September 15, 2022 January 28, 2023

OPENING RECEPTION: Thursday, Sept 15, 2022 6pm to 9pm

PLACE: Fundacion Pablo Atchugarry 5520 NE 4th Avenue Miami, FL 33137

Free RSVP

Curatorial Text





state, alerting attention towards the irreversible ecological destruction of planet Earth.

The title and the works exhibited in MARS STORM, represent a moment of truth, a truth that reveals time is not an abstraction but a concept that must be activated in order to become meaningful. To the curator's point, "It is up to the viewer to make up his own mind and to react according to his own beliefs. And the archaeology of the future proposed by the Cuban artist summarizes all the challenges we have to face."

For more information, high resolution images, and to arrange an interview with Dagoberto Rodríguez or Piero Atchugarry, please contact:

fpatchugarry.miami@gmail.com or at (305) 639-8247.

Fundación Pablo Atchugarry

In December 2018, the Fundación Pablo Atchugarry opened its second location, in a space adjacent to the Piero Atchugarry Gallery, in the neighborhood of Little Haiti, in Miami, FL, located near Miami's Design District.

With the aim to expand the foundation to North America and continue to contribute to the development of visual art, art history knowledge, and passion for the arts.

The exhibition program combines both contemporary and modern art, to bring a refreshing look at art history and to foster an understanding of how art movements can influence each other through time and space.

Artist talks and events allow for intimate encounters with members of the local and international art scene.

Visit the Fundación Pablo Atchugarry at fundacionpabloatchugarrymiami.com

The Fundación Pablo Atchugarry is located at 5520 NE 4th Avenue, Miami FL 33137.

Dagoberto Rodríguez (b.1969, Cuba) graduated from Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA), Havana, Cuba in 1994. In 1992 he co-founded the collective *Los Carpinteros*. His works have been exhibited in Museums and cultural institutions around the world such as MoMA, Whitney Museum of American Art or Guggenheim in New York, Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, the Tate Modern in London, the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid, and the Atchugarry Museum of Contemporary Art, among others. Rodríguez is currently based working between Madrid and Havana.

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