

Press Release

Vi el futuro, es maravilloso, hay Puertorriqueñxs / I saw the future, it's so wonderful, there are Puerto Ricans

Curated by **Mariana Ramos Ortiz**

On view:

July 1 - July 30, 2023

Mon. - Fri. 8am-8pm and Sat. 9am-6pm

Opening Reception: **July 1st, 2023, 2 - 6 pm**

Location: **Taller Comunidad La Goyco
1763 C. Loiza, San Juan, P.R. 00911**

Featuring work by:

Jezabeth González Roca - Jose Luis Vargas - Gabriella Torres Ferrer - Amanda Torres - Leonel Rodríguez - Sofía Córdova - María José V - Ramón Miranda Beltrán

Vi el futuro, es maravilloso, hay Puertorriqueñxs / I saw the future, it's so wonderful, there are Puerto Ricans interweaves the work of Puerto Rican artists engaging with speculative fictions, world-building, Caribbean Futurism, and reinterpretations of the past, present, and future in response to Puerto Rico's colonial realities.

Through centering the radical imaginary as a tool for self-determination, the seven artists showcased in this exhibition aim to suggest alternatives on how to access the past, traverse the present, and produce future forms of knowledge. Through their video work, Jezabeth González Roca invites their family to imagine and visualize what it would mean to live on a floating island. While already living within shifting political, social and economic terrains, members of their family share a speculative fiction approach to the realities of everyday Puerto Rico. Gabriella Torres Ferrer's network-based still life, composed of commodities such as pineapples, plantains, sugar cane, and data mining computers, exposes the dynamics of production and exchange in the Caribbean as well as the post-hurricane wave of crypto investors taking advantage of a territory in crisis. The works in this exhibition interrogate the constant colonization of futures due to the unquestioned and unchallenged continuations of the past and present.

In conjunction with the exhibition, a series of performances and events will be held to address the emerging forms, perspectives, and contributions these artists are making to the reimagining of Puerto Rican futurity.

This exhibition was selected through apexart's Open Call. For more information and images visit <https://apexart.org/ortiz.php> or contact ash.hagerstrand@apexart.org.

Mariana Ramos Ortiz is an interdisciplinary artist whose work considers the structural and temporal qualities of sand as they pertain to themes of occupation, resistance, and protection in the context of Puerto Rico's ongoing colonial realities. They hold a BA from the University of Puerto Rico and an MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design.

apexart's program supporters past and present include the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Kettering Family Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Buhl Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Spencer Brownstone, the Kenneth A. Cowin Foundation, Epstein Teicher Philanthropies, The Greenwich Collection Ltd., William Talbott Hillman Foundation/Affirmation Arts Fund, the Fifth Floor Foundation, The Puffin Foundation, the Trust for Mutual Understanding, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, public funds from Creative Engagement, supported by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and administered by LMCC, funds from NYSCA Electronic Media/Film in Partnership with Wave Farm: Media Arts Assistance Fund, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, as well as the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the New York State Legislature.

#Isawthefuture

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apexart - San Juan, Puerto Rico



Amanda Torres, *Hoyo en Uno*, 2020