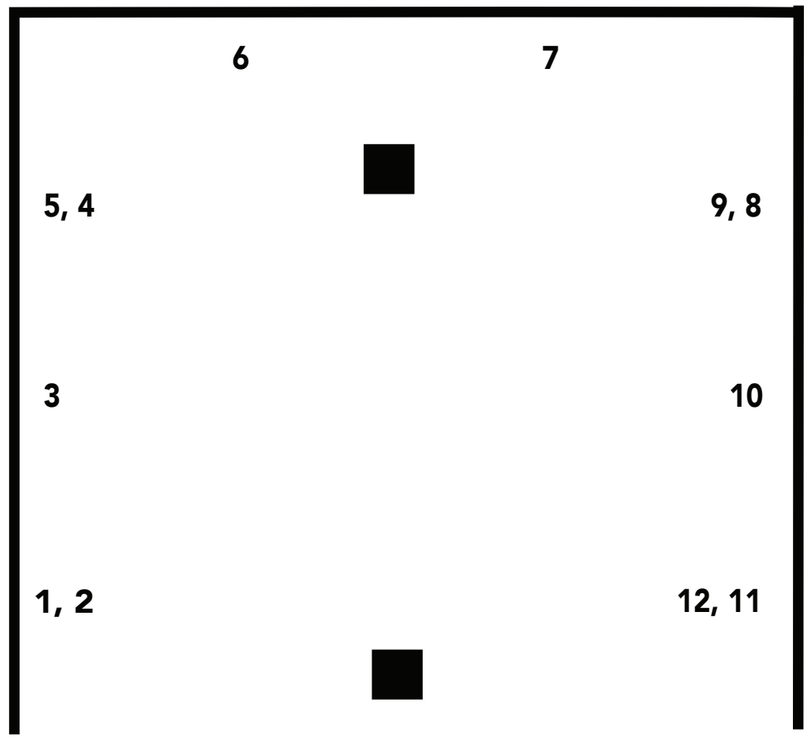
ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Glendalys Medina's exhibition, *Foundational Dualities*, explores themes of erasure, duality, and craft. In this collection of works, the artist focuses on the creation story of the indigenous people of the Caribbean, the Taínos.

The series of embossed prints, *BrownTaínoBlackGold* and *BrownTaínoBlackDiamond*, seen on the south wall, are blueprints for the artist's visual language. The pictographs and motifs from these prints are a collected reference from research at the Center of Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College in New York City and are the exhibition's inspiration. The symbols used in Foundational Dualities are an interpretation of the supreme deities in the Taíno religion, such as the goddess Atabey and her twins, Yúcahu and Juracán/Guabancex. This imagery is repeated throughout this exhibition and can be seen in Medina's previous work.

On the east wall of the gallery is a piece representing Guabancex/Juracán, the deity of chaos and disorder, who controls the weather, and Yúcahu, the deity of male fertility. The materials used for the wall sculpture *La Luna* pay homage to Medina's heritage and combine both formal artmaking and craft. Floating across from *La Luna*, sits a drawing of Atabey birthing the two mirroring columns with iconography that pictorially unravels the story of the twins leading to the creation story of the Taíno people. The spilling of the columns onto the floor symbolizes the evaporation of indignity caused by the colonization of the Caribbean.

Besides the physical work on the walls, the gallery is filled with an audio recording of a lyric poet written and performed by the artist. *Sway*, accentuates the fluctuating perspectives of existence, swinging from connecting with ourselves to our common humanity and universal spirit.



GALLERY MAP & WORKS LIST

1 ***Shaman I*, 2022**
Vinyl

2 ***Untitled I (Tool)*, 2020**
Oil pastel and marker on paper

3 ***The Moon/La Luna*, 2022**
Oil pastel, paint, ink, nails, wire and thread on wood

4 ***Untitled II (Tool)*, 2020**
Oil pastel and marker on paper

5 ***Shaman II*, 2022**
Vinyl

6 ***BrownPinkTaínoBlackGold*, 2018**
Photolithograph printed in gold ink on pink Yatsuo paper, flocked with gold pigment. Over-printed with brown relief

7 ***BrownPinkTaínoBlackDiamond*, 2022**
Photolithograph printed in gold ink on pink Yatsuo paper, flocked with gold pigment printed with brown relief

8 ***Shaman II*, 2020**
Oil pastel and marker on paper

9 ***Guabancex: Taíno Goddess of Transformation*, 2022**
Vinyl

10 ***Atabey*, 2021**
Oil pastel and marker on paper

11 ***Yúcahu: God of creation and masculine fertility*, 2022**
Vinyl

12 ***Shaman I*, 2020**
Oil pastel and marker on paper

13 ***Sway*, 2022**
Audio

ABOUT ARTPACE

Artpace San Antonio is a nonprofit residency program which supports Texas, national, and international artists in the creation of new art. As a catalyst for artistic expression, we engage local communities with global art practices and experiences.

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Since 1995, Artpace has welcomed more than 263 artists through its renowned International Artist-in-Residence program. Annually, Artpace hosts three residencies, which each feature one Texas-based artist, one national artist, and one international artist, who are selected by a notable guest curator. Each eight-week residency culminates in a two-month exhibition on site. The mission of this program is to provide artists with unparalleled resources that allow them to experiment with new ideas and take provocative risks.

The Spring 2022 residency program is curated by Marcela Guerrero, Jennifer Rubio Associate Curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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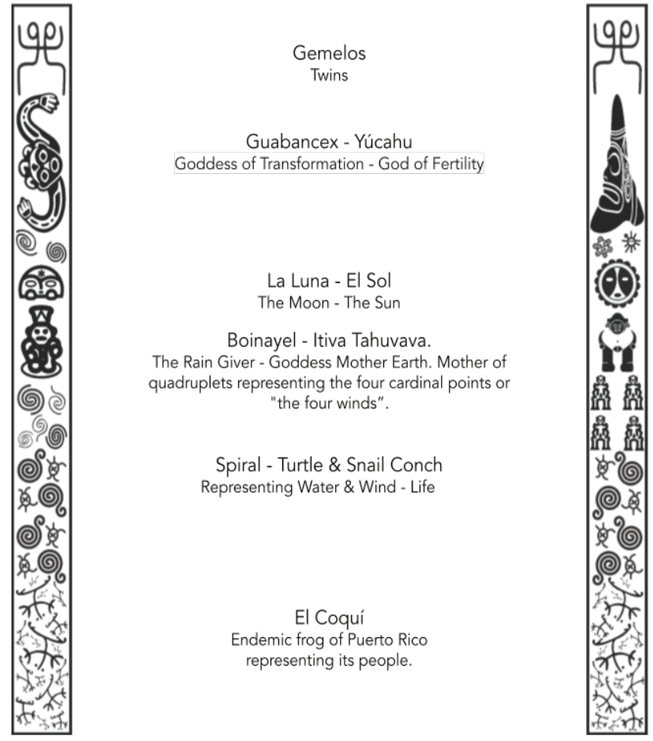
SPRING 2022 INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

In residence January 24–March 21, 2022 | **Exhibitions on view** March 17–May 8, 2022

Foundational Dualities
Glendalys Medina



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Glendalys Medina is a conceptual interdisciplinary visual artist who was born in Puerto Rico and raised in the Bronx. Medina received an MFA from Hunter College and has presented artwork at such notable venues as Performa 19, Artists Space, The Bronx Museum of Art, and El Museo del Barrio among others. Medina was a recipient of a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, 2020; a Jerome Hill Foundation Fellowship, 2019; and an Ace Hotel New York City Artist Residency, 2017, to name a few. Medina is currently a professor at the School of Visual Art's MFA Art Practice Program and lives and works in New York City.

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