



**Miami Art Museum Presents Cuban-Dominican Artist Quisqueya Henríquez'  
First US Museum Exhibition**

**April 25-July 20, 2008**

**Artist Famed for Creating Shared Horizons  
From the Daily Reality of the Caribbean**

Miami Art Museum (MAM) is proud to present *Quisqueya Henríquez: The World Outside, A Survey Exhibition 1991 – 2007*, the first major survey of this Cuban-Dominican artist's work in the United States, April 25-July 20, 2008.

*The World Outside* provides a selection of 22 sculptures, installations, drawings, photographs, videos and light/sound works spanning the last two decades of the artist's career. Henríquez has gained international recognition for her concept-driven art, which she uses to bridge the cultural and psychological distances between the Caribbean and the "outside world."

"Henríquez' installations may incorporate properties of light, color, geometry, movement, water, wind, sound and temperature. She uses natural and industrial materials, as well as natural and architectural environments to create situations that are less about their look than about the experience they create for the viewers," Guest Curator Amy Rosenblum Martin says. "Through her work, she invokes the sights, sounds, tastes, and textures of the city—all the sensory experiences that make urban life chaotic and provocative. By playfully abstracting familiar forms, she challenges our relationship with the everyday. Her primary concern is making us aware of our perceptions; with allowing us to see ourselves seeing."

The multifaceted works on view exhibit how Henríquez employs her sharp sense of humor and acute sensitivity to the struggles and ironies of everyday life to break down the barriers between experimental art and popular culture. She photographs construction sites, historical buildings, monuments and beaches strewn with trash, emphasizing how these sights echo global economy, culture, politics, and climate.

The artist uses a wide variety of genre and media to engage the viewer in reexamining issues related to the environment and its role in the production of cultural clichés. In works such as *Helado de Agua de Mar Caribe (Caribbean Seawater Ice Cream)* (2002), she humorously addresses the stereotype of the

Caribbean as a “hot-blooded” individual through ice cream manufactured using Caribbean seawater.

Additional examples of Henríquez’ humorous use of objects drawn from the daily life around her include *Jugando con la adversidad (Playing with Adversity)*, 2001-06, a series of sculptures fashioned from balls, among them a basketball converted into a purse and a soccer ball turned into a cap. Her designs for gift wrapping papers, one of which is folded around the exhibition catalog, combine bright colors and attractive geometry with scenes of garbage washed up on the beaches of the Dominican Republic. These works were first conceived as a participatory project. Henríquez approached store owners in Santa Domingo and asked, with a measure of success, that they use her designs to wrap customers’ purchases.

Among other works included in *Quisqueya Henríquez* are *El mundo de afuera (The World Outside)*, a video edited from hundreds of hours of footage shot from a camera set on a tripod on the balcony of the artist’s apartment over a three year period; *Bornnaked*, an installation/sound work built inside a sofa and *Intertextualidad/ Intertextuality* a video projection merging horses and automobile bodies that spills over into a vinyl wall installation.

### **About the Artist**

Born in Havana, Cuba in 1966, Henríquez studied at the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) in Havana and the Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo. The artist’s first name is the indigenous name given to Santo Domingo before the coming of the Spanish.

Henríquez was a Miami resident from 1993-1997, a period in which she frequently worked collaboratively with Cuban-American artist Consuelo Castañeda, another graduate of Havana’s Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA).

Quisqueya Henríquez has been featured in solo exhibitions at Artists Space, New York; the Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh; Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City; and The Contemporary Museum, Baltimore. She has also been included in many international exhibitions and biennials, including *23 Bienal Nacional*, Santa Domingo (2005) and *INSITE 97*, San Diego (1997), and several groundbreaking group shows, such as *Defining the Nineties: Consensus-making in New York, Miami, and Los Angeles* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami; *Miami: Human Nature*, at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; *No Lo Llamas Performance* at El Museo del Barrio, New York; *Island Nations: New Art from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and the Diaspora* at the RISD Museum of Art, Providence; and currently on view at New York’s El Museo del Barrio, *This Skin I’m In: Contemporary Dominican Art from the Permanent Collection*.

The artist's work is included in the permanent collections of El Museo del Barrio, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami; Miami Art Museum, Miami; The RISD Museum of Art, Providence; Cintas Foundation, New York; and the Ninart Centro de Cultura, Mexico City among others.

### **Miami Art Museum**

Miami Art Museum is dedicated to engaging the public with art from the twentieth century through the present. Since its founding in 1996, the Museum has built a collection of contemporary art with the goal of providing Miami with a legacy for future generations. MAM's collection has grown exponentially since *Art in America* called it "the quintessential Miami collection" in 1999. The MAM collection is dedicated to international art of the 20th and 21st centuries, taking a hemispheric perspective of the Americas.

### **Exhibition Organization**

*Quisqueya Henríquez: The World Outside A Survey Exhibition 1991–2007* was organized by The Bronx Museum of the Arts. The exhibition is supported by Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro; The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation; American Center Foundation; Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, Caracas-New York; The Cowles Charitable Trust; and anonymous contributions. Additional support is provided by Miguel Barletta; District & Co; Jesús Barderas; Ricardo Köenig; and Magnan Projects.

Its Miami presentation is coordinated by MAM Associate Curator René Morales and supported by Goldman Sachs and MAM's Annual Exhibition Fund.

### **Exhibition Tour**

The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, New York – September 16, 2007-  
January 27, 2008

Miami Art Museum, Miami, Florida – April 25-July 20, 2008

### **Opening Reception**

**Thursday, April 24, 2008**

6 to 8pm

Live music, hors d'oeuvres, donation bar

MAM Members Only

### **Publications**

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Bronx Museum published a full-color illustrated catalogue. The catalog features essays by guest curator Amy Rosenblum Martin and poet/critic Monica de la Torre. Each copy is enveloped with a special edition artwork, wrapping paper designed by Henríquez's using images of trash photographed on the beaches of the Dominican Republic. It is available in the MAM Bookstore.

Gallery Notes provide background information on the work of Quisqueya Henríquez and an examination of the exhibition. Available in the galleries. Free.

**Second Saturdays are Free for Families presented by Darden Restaurants Foundation and MetLife Foundation**

**Second Saturday of every month, 1 – 4pm**

Drop in to enjoy fun, interactive programs. Families of all ages explore MAM together, find inspiration to create works of art, and participate in hands-on activities led by Education Staff.

Saturday, May 10

1-4pm

**Caribbean Collage**

Create a collage inspired by the Caribbean with recycled materials depicting views of a tropical environment: not just the tourist beach paradise but the town beyond, too.

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Open Tuesday through Friday - 10 AM to 5 PM, Saturday and Sunday – noon to 5 PM. JAM@MQM Third Thursdays 5PM until 8:30 PM. Closed Monday. Admission for MAM members, children under 12 and students (with valid ID) is free. Adults \$8, seniors \$4, JAM@MAM \$10. Free admission every second Saturday.

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[miamiartmuseum.org](http://miamiartmuseum.org)

Garage Parking

\$5 at 50 NW 2nd Ave

between Flagler St and NW 1st St

Overflow parking at 270 NW 2nd Street

Metrorail: Government Center Station