



di Rosa

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Artist Carlos Quintana in the studio. Photo by Rick Swig, courtesy of Rick Swig and di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art.

Art of Cuba comes to di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art

Pairing artwork with photographic portraits of the artists, Descarga Cubana offers a vision of cultural exchange and collaboration.

Napa, CA (May 15, 2025) – di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art presents *Descarga Cubana*, an exhibition of work by 15 contemporary Cuban visual artists, accompanied by photographs by Rick Swig. *Descarga Cubana* will be on view July 12 – September 28 at di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art, at 5200 Sonoma Highway, Napa, CA. The exhibition will open Saturday, July 12 with a di Rosa Members Hour from 5 – 6 p.m. followed by a public reception 6 – 7 p.m. Tickets for the reception are available at dirosaart.org, and are \$10 general admission, and free for di Rosa Members.



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Descarga translates literally to “discharge,” but is also used to refer to what we might call a musicians’ “jam session”: a group improvisation session. The exhibition is organized by Rick Swig and features work from his personal collection, as well as Swig’s own photographs of the artists. As an extemporaneous collaboration, *Descarga Cubana* can be thought of a jam session itself: a convergence of work by some of Cuba’s finest artists of the last 80 years.

The artists featured — Abel Barroso, Luis Enrique Camejo, Juan Roberto Diago, Nelson Dominguez, Roberto Fabelo, Ever Fonseca, Alberto Lescay, Alexis Leyva Machado "Kcho", Rigoberto Mena, Manuel Mendive, Santiago Rodriguez Olazábal, Mabel Poblet, Carlos Quintana, Eduardo Roca Salazar "Choco", and José Villa Soberón — work across media in sculpture, painting, printmaking, and more. Spanning abstraction, figuration, and conceptual modes, the work offers a reflection of the political and cultural complexities of life in Cuba: its joys, challenges, and beauties.

The United States embargo against Cuba — along with other political and cultural forces — have led to the broad under-recognition and under-exposure of Cuban artists to U.S. audiences. Pairing culturally significant artwork with Swig’s photographic portraits of the artists in their homes and studios, *Descarga Cubana* offers a vision of cultural exchange and collaboration.

ABOUT DI ROSA CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

di Rosa is a non-profit art center and nature preserve specializing in the art of Northern California. Located at 5200 Sonoma Highway, on 217 acres in the Carneros region of Napa, CA, di Rosa includes two large art galleries, a beautiful lake, abundant birding, walking trails with vineyard views, outdoor sculptures, and picnic grounds.

di Rosa presents contemporary exhibitions by Bay Area-based artists in addition to maintaining a permanent collection of notable works by artists with ties to the Bay Area from the mid-twentieth century to the early 2000s.

di Rosa offers an array of public programs and events for all ages to inspire creativity and curiosity. di Rosa is open to the public without reservations Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and by appointment Tuesday through Wednesday. Beginning July 1, 2025, visits are by reservation only. Visitors are encouraged to bring picnics. For more information visit www.dirosaart.org.

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