



DINNER GALLERY

Anna Ortiz

Born 1979 in Worcester MA
Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY

BIO

Anna Ortiz is a Mexican-American painter living in Brooklyn. Growing up in Worcester Massachusetts, Ortiz spent much of her childhood visiting her family in Guadalajara Mexico. Inspired by the archeology of Mesoamerican figures and the landscape of Mexico, Ortiz's work serves as a reflection on her Mexican-American identity. Growing up with one foot in the U.S. and the other in Mexico, Ortiz always felt distanced from both of her nationalities. Similarly the beings in her paintings embrace their ambiguities. Rooted in statuary and botanicals, these figures come to life in dream-like landscapes where they are neither dead nor alive. Their narrative nature references ancient Aztec and Mayan mythology while reflecting back on current and personal events. Out of the ruins of their previous existence, these new creatures inhabit a borderland between memory and imagination. Dualities define them, give them shape. Weaving together invented spaces with references to actual places, the paintings take both a familiar tone and a sense of the uncanny. The figures in this series act as guides or trail markers on a journey through a surreal landscape recalling the borderlands between Mexico and the US. The spirits residing in these statues and plants are in a state of existence between life and death, a slow motion awareness that is hard to define. They guide and warn the visitor while also encouraging them to continue. Taken as a whole, her paintings offer a purview into an invented world existing just slightly out of the realm of possibility. By playing with spatial compression and a filtered palette, Ortiz invites viewers to consider the realities we create for ourselves and the possibilities that lie ahead.

EDUCATION

2005 MFA Painting Tyler School of Art/Temple University PA
2002 BA Art History Tufts University, Boston MA/BFA Painting SMFA Boston

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 Hacia Aztlán, Dinner Gallery, New York, NY
2019 Los Dioses de los Pochos, Proto Gomez, New York, NY
2017 Epsalante, Hunter Gallery, Middletown, RI



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SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Duality: The Real and the Perceived, Monya Rowe Gallery, NY
FUTURE Fair, Huxley Parlour Gallery, New York, NY
- 2022 Distorted Realities, Front Room Gallery, Hudson, NY
Covid Haus, Mother-in -Laws Haus, Germantown, NY
Hidden Sublime, Selenas Mountain, Queens NY
The Wood for the Trees, Hawk and Hive, Andes, NY
- 2021 The Big Show, My Pet Ram, New York, NY
Porous Modes, Field Projects, New York, NY
Soft Elegy, The Royal, Brooklyn, NY
- 2019 Smudge Partners and Son, Philadelphia, PA
The Strangeness of Structure, String Room Gallery, Aurora, NY
Ruin, The Royal Society of Art, Brooklyn, NY
The Drawing is the Moveable Feast, Proto Gomez, New York, NY
Courtesy Of, Transmitter Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Flat File, Tiger Strikes Asteroid Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2018 An Animal Unto Itself, Transmitter Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Small/Mighty, La Bodega Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
The Strangeness of Structure, Adelphi University, Garden City, NY
Introductions, Trestle Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2017 High Rock Tower, Ess Ef Eff, New York, NY
Underdonk Selects, Underdonk, Brooklyn, NY
- 2016 Shaky Ground, Lesley Heller Workspace, New York, NY
Brooklyn Comes to Westport, Deedee Shattuck Gallery, Westport, MA
Nomenclature, Centotto, Brooklyn, NY
- 2015 Underdonk Selects, Underdonk, Brooklyn, NY
Last Grexit to Brooklyn, Centotto, Brooklyn, NY
Passing Left The Buggy Factory, Dorado Project, Brooklyn, NY
Vision, Concepto, Hudson NY
Fractured Atlas, Storefront Gallery, New York, NY

AWARDS / RESIDENCIES

- 2022 Byrdcliffe Residency, NY
- 2019 Obras Residency Estremoz, Portugal
- 2015 Obras Residency Renkum, The Netherlands
- 2012 Old School House Residency Hrisey, Iceland



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2011 Obras Residency Renkum, The Netherlands
2010 Vermont Studio Center Fellowship and Residency, VT 2003 Future Faculty
Fellowship Award Temple University PA

PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

2023 Sound & Vision Podcast, Web. Alfred Studio.
Critics' Picks, Web. ARTFORUM.
Agenda: Exhibition of Anna Ortiz, "Towards Aztlán". Print. El Dario NY.
2022 I Like Your Work Summer Exhibition Catalogue. Web. Testudo.
2020 Make Magazine Issue 11. Print.