

# Jesús Matheus

b. 1957 Caracas, Venezuela - lives and works in Boston, Massachusetts



Since 1973, Venezuelan artist Jesús Matheus has studied the art of printmaking intensively, both in Venezuela and Brazil. His paintings and drawings reflect this graphic background in their direct linearity and layers of texture and meaning.

Influenced by modern Latin American artists such as Joaquín Torres-García and Wifredo Lam, as well as by indigenous and pre-Columbian craft and folk art, Matheus executes geometric, minimalist pieces that are cannot be perceived as cold or sterile. Rather, the artwork maintains the warmth and richness of its historical foundations and becomes almost archeological in character.

Critic Carlos Palacios wrote, "Matheus is not interested in re-interpreting history, his visual references remain faithful to the originals and he only arranges them fragmentarily..." The result is drawings, paintings and installations that evoke a history culled from research in culture and ethnicity, expeditions throughout South America and, as always, personal experience.

Jesús Matheus has taught Drawing and Printmaking since 1992 at the Armando Reveron Institute, Caracas, and has exhibited extensively in South America and internationally. His work is part of several public and private collections in Brazil, Colombia, México, Venezuela, Cuba, Puerto Rico, the United States, Spain, Switzerland, France, and Austria. The artist currently lives and works in Boston, Massachusetts.

## Collections

Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, New York

Dana Faber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

Sayago and Pardon Collection, California

Cisneros Foundation, Caracas, Venezuela

Cabinet of Print and Drawing, National Gallery of Art, Caracas, Venezuela

Carlos Cruz-Diez Museum of Illustration and Design, Caracas, Venezuela

Mario Abreu Museum of Contemporary Art, Maracay, Venezuela

National Library, Caracas, Venezuela

Taller de Artistas Gráficos Asociados, Caracas, Venezuela

Venezuelan Corporation of Guayana, Venezuela

Mercantil Bank Foundation, Caracas, Venezuela

National Museum of Print, México City, México

Embassy of Venezuela, México City, México

Graphic Arts Institute of Oaxaca, Oaxaca, México

Wilfredo Lam Center, Havana, Cuba

Casa de las Américas, Havana, Cuba

René Portocarrero Silk Screen Workshop, Havana, Cuba

Embassy of Venezuela, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, School of Fine Arts, Brazil

Federal University of Espiritu Santo, Vitoria, Brazil

Puerto Rican Institute of Culture, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, Spain

**Main Exhibitions**

- 2021 *Jesús Matheus Piedras Cantadas*, Galería Odalys, Madrid, Spain
- 2018 *Jesús Matheus: The White Studio*, Ranivilu Gallery, Miami, Florida
- 2017 *Construcción*, Galería Manuel Ojeda, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain
- 2016 *Colectiva Verano 2016*, Beatrice Gil Galeria, Caracas Venezuela
- 2015 *Neoglifos*, Sala Trasnocho Arte Contemporaneo, Caracas, Venezuela  
*New Art Resolutions*, WE ART GALLERY, Washington, DC
- 2014 *The Ideogram of Place*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 2013 *Recent Works by Gallery Artists*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York  
*Time Pieces* (two person show w/ Danielle Sauvé), gallery@ARTBLOCK, Boston, Massachusetts  
*Square Totem/recent work*, Ideobox Artspace, Miami, Florida  
*The Restless Square*, Artepuy Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2012 *2D Salon*, Chandler Gallery, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
*Línea Crítica/Desplazamientos Cromáticos*, Artepuy Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela  
*Magic Square*, Artkitec Gallery, Mérida, Venezuela
- 2011 *Jesús Matheus: New Work*, Solar Gallery, East Hampton, New York
- 2010 *Variable Dimensions*, (two person show), AIB/ Lesley University, University Hall Gallery, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 2008 *Recent Work*, Artepuy Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela  
Visual/Manual Center for Latino Arts CLA, Boston, Massachusetts
- 2006 *Pure Form Paintings*, Solar Gallery, East Hampton, New York
- 2005 *Unseen paintings*, Diversity Gallery, QCC Community College, Worcester, Massachusetts  
*Trashumantes Paintings and Drawings*, Pages Espai d'art, Barcelona, Spain
- 2002 *Paintings*, Gomez Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland  
*The Skin of the Painting*, Solar Gallery, East Hampton, New York
- 2001 *Site B Works on Paper*, Open studios FPCA, Boston, Massachusetts
- 1999 *Nómada/Nomad Installations*, Sala Mendoza Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1998 *Print Installations*, Museum of Americas, San Juan, Puerto Rico  
*In Situ Installations and Artist Books*, Unus Space, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1997 *Casa de Signos/House of Signs: Paintings*, Leo Blasini Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1996 *Print Installations*, Homestudio José Clemente Orozco, Guadalajara, México
- 1994 *Muro de Ofrendas/ Wall of Offerings*, One Print Installation, Unus Space, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1993 *Prints*, Latinoamerican Gallery, Casa de las Américas, Havana, Cuba
- 1989 *Drawings*, VW Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela

**Awards**

- 2004 CAF Prize, Luisa Palacios XI Biennial of Miniatures, TAGA, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1997 Honorable Mention in Graphic Arts, Colombian/Venezuelan Biennial, Mérida, Venezuela
- 1990-92 Grant, National Council of Culture, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1988 Honorable Mention, III Biennial, Maracaibo, Venezuela  
Honorable Mention, V Biennial of Miniature Graphics, TAGA, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1986 Honorable Mention, Young Print Prize, Casa de las Américas, Havana, Cuba
- 1978 Honorable Mention in Printmaking, University Salon of Fine Arts UFES, Vitoria, Brazil
- 1977 Second Place, EBA Salon, UFRJ; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil