

Women Photographers Explore Racist & Colonial Stereotypes Virtual Show At CCCADI In East Harlem

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The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute's latest digital exhibition, *The Abyss of the Ocean: Cuban Women Photographers, Migrations, and the Question of Race*.

The show is currently available for viewing and will offer free virtual programs to the general public featuring the artists, curators, and special guest speakers beginning in April and running through June 2022.

As part of the exhibition, CCCADI will also release an education guide in April that will allow educators and families with young children to explore the work of the five Cuban women photographers featured in the exhibition and the themes their photographs examine.

The Abyss of the Ocean: Cuban Women Photographers, Migrations, and the Question of Race, guest curated by Aldeide Delgado focus on identity and resistance.

The exhibition reveals the experiences and strategies of survival of María Magdalena Campos-Pons – *When I am not here, estoy allá*, Coco Fusco – *Paquita y Chata Se Arrebatan*, Marta María Pérez Bravo – *No son míos*, Gertrudis Rivalta – *I (Yo)*, and Juana Valdés – *Imperial China* within the matrix of Latinx Art.

Through their work, these artists challenge the concept of Latinidad and its relationship to Blackness in the modern/colonial project.

"Inspired by postcolonial Caribbean thought, [this] feminist archipelagic perspective centers racialized women's experiences by foregrounding the aftermath of the abyss (of the slave ship, of the depths of the sea, and of the unknown)," said Aldeide Delgado, CCCADI Guest Curator.

CCCADI's Curator-at-Large Grace Aneiza Ali invited Delgado, a notable curator and scholar of Cuban photography and founder of Women Photographers International Archive (WOPHA), to serve as guest curator as part of the CCCADI's mission to provide platforms for curators of color committed to the artistic and cultural production of the Afro-Caribbean and its Diaspora.

CCCADI has been dedicated to stimulating discussions about identity, culture, and race within the global African Diaspora throughout its 45 years.

Within the current societal climate, racial and cultural erasure, sexualization, and objectification run rampant, serving as a reminder that there continues to be a need to explore the complexity of identity and the ramifications of the historical simplification of it.

“These works nudge us to think about movement and migration as we consider the impact of displacement and erasure of the original inhabitants and the absolute affront in the stripping of a people’s culture and land resulting in the appropriation by the “other,” said Melody Capote, CCCADI Executive Director.”

This exhibition, including information about the featured artists and curator, the CCCADI executive director statement, and the schedule of virtual programs, can be viewed by visiting TheAbyssoftheOcean.digital

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CCCADI

The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute (CCCADI), is an arts, culture, education and media organization that advances cultural equity, racial and social justice for African descendant communities.

CCCADI's programs serve children/youth, families, young professionals, elders, local and international artists, and practitioners of African-based spiritual traditions.

Through our work CCCADI offers a collective space where African descendants honor the contributions of the global African Diaspora through exhibitions, performances, conferences, educational programs and international exchanges.

Learn more at www.cccadi.org