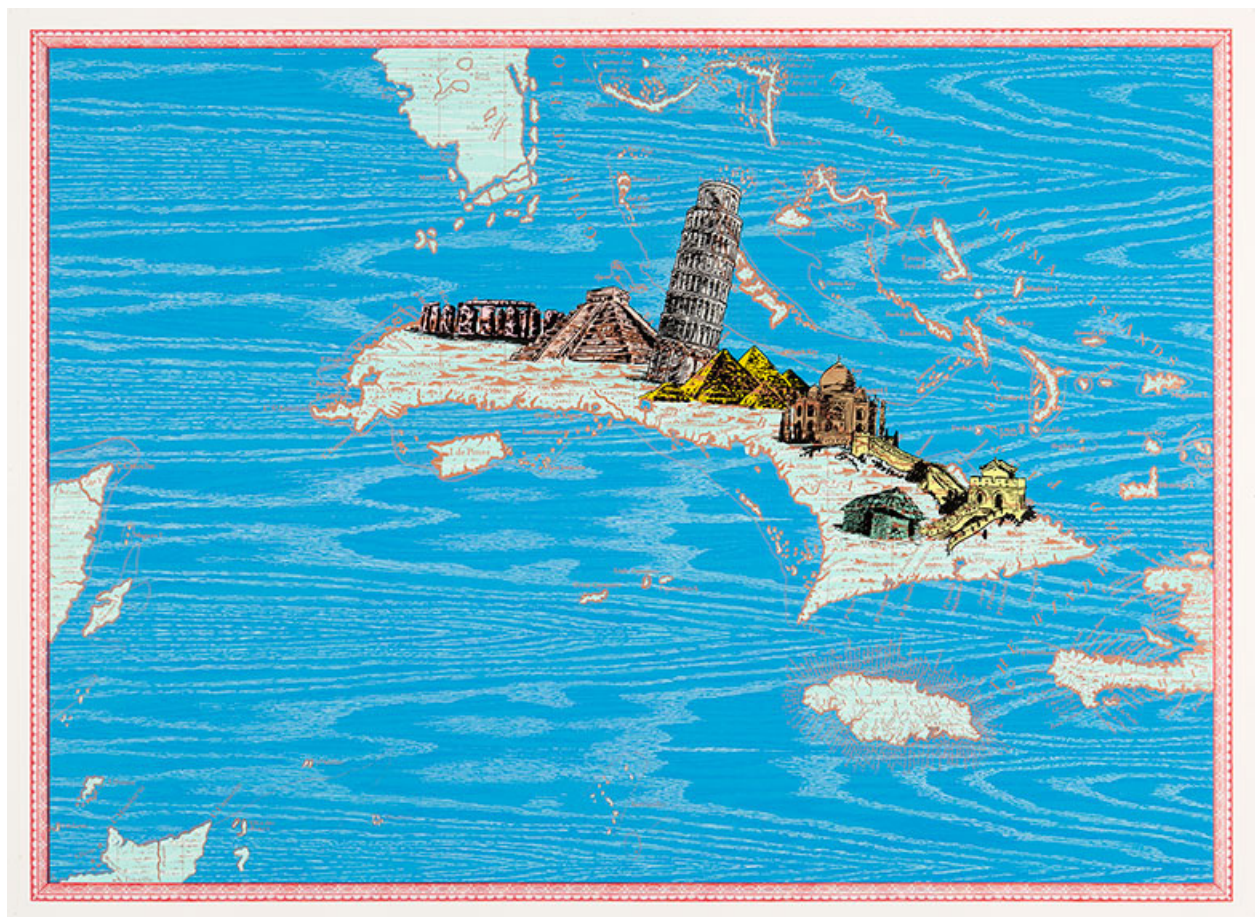


The University of South Florida  
Contemporary Art Museum and Graphicstudio  
invite you to join us for

# A Taste of Cuba:

## Art, Culture, Gastronomy

March 9–13, 2017



# A Taste of Cuba

## Highlights include:

- Guided tours of museums, galleries and art spaces including the **National Museum of Fine Arts** and the **Superior Institute of Art**.
- Visits to the studios of leading visual artists could include **Esterio Segura, Ibrahim Miranda, Abel Barroso, Kcho** and **Celia y Junior**, depending on artist schedules.
- Guided architectural tour of Old Havana and its **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.
- Full day excursion to beautiful **Varadero**, including lunch on the water at the famous **Xanadu Mansion**.
- Performing arts experiences, including a visit to **Compas Dans** studio, and an evening performance at the **Gran Teatro de La Habana**.
- Visit the **Partagas Cigar Factory** and other notable venues.
- All tours, museums and entrance fees, gratuities for our main guide, bus driver and hotel staff are included, as well as medical insurance while you are in Cuba.



*Instituto Superior de Arte*



*Varadero Beach*

This tour is designed expressly by Noel Smith, Curator of Latin American and Caribbean Art, to give an insider's view of the dynamic and world-class Cuban visual arts scene. The storied and vibrant city of Havana has never been more interesting. The contrast between its Spanish colonial past and its revolutionary present is the background for the great social and economic changes and challenges the island is experiencing. Long forbidden to American travellers, almost anyone can travel to the island today, yet few will experience the kind of in-depth and culturally intensive experience arranged by Noel Smith and premier travel provider Carlson Maritime.

Havana was founded in 1519 by Spain. The original part of the city is known as Old Havana, and its ancient squares and cobblestone streets contain a wealth of Spanish colonial structures including the Cathedral, Capitanía General, and former mansions now repurposed as museums and government buildings. Densely populated, it is bubbling over with street life, galleries, stores and music from the many bars and restaurants. Old Havana was designated a UNESCO Heritage Site in 1985.

Cuban visual arts have a long and distinguished history, crowned by the international success of many contemporary artists. The Cuban art collection of the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, located in Old Havana, dates to the 17th century and culminates in the 21st, with fine examples of works by artists such as Wifredo Lam, Raul Martínez, and Los Carpinteros, among others. Curator Corina Matamoros will lead the group in a tour emphasizing contemporary art. The Instituto Superior de Arte, Cuba's flagship arts academy, is known for producing several generations of acclaimed artists. Its distinctive and organic Caribbean and Catalan inflected brick architecture was built on the grounds of the old Havana Country Club in the 1960s.



# Stay at the Five-Star Hotel Nacional

The Hotel Nacional showcases old Cuban traditions for luxury and service and suggests that they have not been completely forgotten in the wake of the 1959 Revolution. A facelift costing \$64 million has brought the hotel back to its former glory. Everything has been restored: the simple yet tasteful rooms and apartments, elegant dining areas and vibrant swimming pools. Located on a small knoll overlooking the entrance to Havana Bay, this stylish Havana accommodation was originally built in 1930. Its beautiful gardens and expansive views of the Straits of Florida invite languorous afternoons enjoying mojitos with old and new friends.

## The finest cuisine Cuba has to offer

The culinary scene in Cuba has undergone a renaissance. Gone are the days of grim state-owned restaurants and their slim offerings. We will sample many of the beautiful, chic *paladars* (privately owned and operated eateries) that have sprouted all over the city, starring fresh fish and seafood caught in the island's waters.



*Hotel Nacional de Cuba*



*La Moraleja Paladar*

## Artist studio visits

Los Carpinteros, Ibrahim Miranda, Liset Castillo, Abel Barroso and Esterio Segura are some of the many Cuban contemporary artists whose work has been published by Graphicstudio and presented at the Contemporary Art Museum. Noel Smith will arrange for private visits to artist studios which will feature intimate insights into artists' practices and way of life in Cuba.

## Curator Noel Smith

Noel has worked with Cuban visual art since 1999. She has travelled to the island over twenty times, and has established close relationships with artists, curators, gallerists and institutions. During visits to artist studios, museums and educational institutions she will share the knowledge of Cuban arts and culture she has gained as curator, educator and translator.



Los Carpinteros, *Panera*, 2004

# A Taste of Cuba

**\$3,699 per person\***

double occupancy

(add \$625 for single occupancy)

This trip is limited to 40 participants.  
Space must be reserved by January 19, 2017.

**Includes:**

Nonstop airfare to Havana from Tampa

OFAC license for Cuba travel and visa

Transportation in air conditioned private bus with daily bottled water

English speaking guide throughout visit

4 nights at the 5-star Hotel Nacional de Cuba

Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily

*\* Includes a \$500 donation to the USF Institute for Research in Art  
which supports its programming of Cuban art.*



*Old Havana*

For more information or to register for this trip, please contact:

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