

## Art Brut Project Cuba

Art Brut Project Cuba is an art project created by RIERA STUDIO with the purpose of promoting and supporting singular art expressions, that share a stylistic distance from the existing visual culture based on academic or intellectual training; and whose makers have no knowledge of intellectual artistic issues.

Art Brut Project Cuba is actually the only Cuban art project specialized in Art Brut and Outsider Art. Its main task is the acknowledgment and promotion of the Cuban creators of Art Brut and Outsider Art, and their artworks, in the national and international scenes. Our facilities included a reference center with available information about these artists and the conservation of most of their artworks.

Visits to the studio are open from Monday through Saturday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; or by an appointment at our phones: (+53) 7879 1818 | (+53) 5245 7911

[more information ...](#)



## Featured Artist

### Esperanza Conde (Pia)

Esperanza Conde Rodriguez, or Pia as all her friends call her, lives almost totally isolated away from any urban settlement in a small wooden house. Her home is in a little inaccessible hamlet in the countryside of Villa Clara, Cuba. She works the land together with her husband that is the daily means of support of the family.

Pia has never received any artistic formation, but she has a very strong unconscious bond with art. She paints impulsively with any material that she finds close at hand and on any surface motivated by a strong emotional necessity. Her motivations and inspiration sources are unknown; she doesn't know how to explain the reason why she paints neither what's the meaning of her drawings. She never knows exactly what is she going to paint until she already has the piece in front of her, and once the work is made, she gets detached emotionally of the work and she throws it in a corner. Even if she stores many works she grabs them all and burns them, because, according to her own words, it entertains her to see the colors of the flames.

Although in her whole life she has only known the countryside, she has not been interested in painting the landscapes surrounding her, but she deals with her world from a more intimate and personal perspective. In her pieces she set free a number of unique characters, generally human figures that melt with each other and with all type of animals, creating complex living structures. Her representations show elements that have nothing to do with her reality, on the other hand come from a mystic world. There is no explanation for any of them or neither what they represent, and it's not of her interest to know, not even title her works. She paints on paper, on sheets, on pieces of old clothes, on boards, even in the walls of her house. She uses what she has available; watercolors, colored pencils, pens, and even bricks powder gridded by her, or dirt of different colors. Materials are not important for her but to take out of her head all those images that are gathered in her mind, to get rid of those beings that live inside her using any material in a sublime way.



Sculpture on wood and cotton, 42 cm x 15 cm x 17 cm, 2015

***RIERA STUDIO is a Cuban space for exhibitions, reflection and artistic dialogue that recognizes and studies the different dynamics of the peripheral development of art and society. Art Brut Project Cuba, created by RIERA STUDIO, is the only Cuban-based initiative that supports and promotes Art Brut and Outsider Art***

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