

EDRA SOTO

(b. Puerto Rico) Living in Chicago since 1998 | edrasoto.com
Co-Founder, The Franklin, est. 2012 | thefranklinoutdoor.tumblr.com

EDUCATION

2000 The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Master of Fine Arts, IL
1997 The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, IL
1995 Alfonso Arana's Foundation, One-year Painting Fellowship, FR
1994 Escuela de Artes Plasticas de Puerto Rico, Bachelor of Fine Arts., PR

SELECTED AWARDS

2022
Ree Kaneko Award Winner, Bemis Center, for Contemporary Arts, National Illinois Arts Council Agency, Artist Fellowship Award, IL

2021
Artists-Run Chicago Fund, The Franklin, Hyde Park Art Center, IL

2020
Joan Mitchell Painters & Sculptors Grant, National
Perto de Lá <> Close To There, MacArthur International Connections Fund, CH & BR

2019
Foundwork Artist Prize Winner, National
Illinois Arts Council Agency, Artist Fellowship Award, IL
Repatriacion, MacArthur International Connections Fund, Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico, CH & PR

2018
Cross Currents, MacArthur International Connections Fund, Smart Museum, CH & CU

2016
Efroymsen Contemporary Arts Fellowship, Indianapolis, IN
Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant, New York, NY

SELECTED COMMISSIONS

2023
Graft, Central Wharf Park, Boston, MA (forthcoming)
Tropicalamerican, O'Hare Terminal 5, Chicago, IL (forthcoming)
Scala, with Dan Sullivan, Computer Design, Research & Learning Center, UIC, IL (forthcoming)

2022
GRAFT | Knoxville, Tri-Star Arts, University of Tennessee, permanent, TN
Casa Isla | House Island, Flourish at 50, Chicago Botanic Gardens, IL

2021
CTA Blue Line Western Station, with Dan Sullivan, IL

2020
Joan Mitchell Painters & Sculptors Grant, National
Victoria, Meta Open Arts, Public Art commission, CA

2019
Foundwork Artist Prize Winner, National
Screenhouse, Millennium Park Foundation and DCASE, Boeing North Park, Millennium Park, IL

SELECTED SOLO AND TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2023

Destination / El Destino: A Decade of Graft, Hyde Park Art Center, IL (forthcoming)
Dos Cuerpos, Morgan Lehman Gallery, NY (forthcoming)
Graft, Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA
Open 24 Hours, LSD Bulletin Board (billboard), Land & Sea Department, IL

2022

The Myth of Closure | El Mito del Cierre, Cleve Carney Museum of Art, IL
La Distancia | The Distance, Engage Projects, IL
Surrounded by Water, Latchkey gallery, NY

2021

The Myth of Closure / El Mito del Cierre / Luis DeJesus Los Angeles, CA
GRAFT, Platform series, Moody Center for the Arts, Rice University, TX
Casas-Islas | Houses-Islands, Morgan Lehman Gallery, NY
Let Love Win, Abrons Arts Center, NY

2019

Forgotten Forms, Chicago Cultural Center, IL

2018

OPEN 24 HOURS, Chicago Athletic Association, IL
OPEN 24 HOURS, Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago, IL

2017

OPEN 24 HOURS, Headlands Center for the Arts, CA
Screenhouse, curated by Janine Mileaf, The Arts Club of Chicago, IL
Manual GRAFT, curated by Kendra Paitz, University Galleries, Illinois State University, IL
GRAFT, curated by Albert Stabler, Sector 2337, IL

2016

GRAFT, curated by Albert Stabler, Cuchifritos Gallery + Project Space, NY

2015

DOMINODOMINO, with Dan Sullivan, EXPO CHGO, IL

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

Back and Forth: Keeping Time in Vaivén, Katherine E. Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota, MN (forthcoming)

2023

No Place Like Home, Schingoethe Center, Aurora University, IL

2022

no existe un mundo poshuracán, Whitney Museum of American Art, NY
Through the Lattice, Surrey Art Gallery, CA

2021

We didn't ask permission, we just did it...Embajada at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louise, MO
damas, damas, damas, damas, Embajada at The Green Gallery, IL
The Way Forward, Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, MI
Estamos Bien, La Trienal 20/21, El Museo del Barrio, NY
Stopgap, curated by Tony Lewis, MASSIMODECARLO VSPACE
Counter Flags, curated by Natalia Viera Salgado, Abrons Arts Center, NY
XX, LatchKey Gallery, NY
LatinXAmerican, DePaul Art Museum, IL
NADA at Governors Island, Morgan Lehman Gallery, NY

2020

The Long Dream, Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago, IL
Temporal: Puerto Rican Resistance, curated by Dalina Perez Alvarez, Museum of Contemporary Photography, IL
UNTITLED, Art Miami Beach OVR, Luis de Jesus Los Angeles, online

Artists Run Chicago 2.0, The Franklin, Hyde Park Art Center, IL
State of the Art 2020, curated by Lauren Hayes, Alejo Benedetti and Allison Glenn, The Momentary, AK
Anarquia y Dialectica en el Deseo, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Puerto Rico, PR
Open House: Domestic Thresholds, curated by Aaron Ott, Albright-Knox Northland, IL

2019

Cross Currents, Smart Museum, Chicago, IL
Repatriacion, Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico, PR
Monarchs, curated by Risa Puleo, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, KS

2018

High Desert Test Sites, curated by The Ski Club, Joshua Tree, CA
Out of Easy Reach, curated by Allison Glenn, DePaul Art Museum, IL
Isla Imaginaria, curated by Natalia Viera Salgado, SVA, New York, NY

2017

Monarchs, curated by Risa Puleo, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, NE
Traduttore, Traditore, curated by Karen Greenwalt and Katja Rivera, Gallery 400, IL
Spots, Dots, Pips and Tiles, curated by Arden Sherman and Maria Elena Ortiz, Perez Art Museum, FL
Ida y vuelta, curated by Laura Bravo, Museo de Historia, Antropologia y Arte de la UPR, PR

2016

Spots, Dots, Pips and Tiles, curated by Arden Sherman and Maria Elena Ortiz, Hunter East Harlem Gallery, NY
Great Poor Farm Experiment, curated by Lise Baggesen and Yvette Brackman, WI

2015

IV Trienal Poli/Graifca de San Juan, Latinoamerica y el Caribe, PR
Know Yourself, The Luminary, MO

SELECTED LECTURES

2023

Luto y Lucha: Grief and Resistance in the Wake of Maria, Whitney Museum of American Art, NY
Art Department, Denison University, OH
No Place Like Home exhibition, keynote, Aurora University, IL

2022

Sculpture Department, UTK School of Art, University of Tennessee, TN
Art, Theory, Practice, Northwestern University, IL

2021

Department of Painting and Printmaking, Graduate division, Yale University, CN
Collective View, in conversation with Lee Ann Norman, via Zoom
Art and Art History Department, Swarthmore College, PA
XX artists in conversation with Arlene Davila, LatchKey Gallery, NY, via Zoom
Visiting Artist Lecture, Oberlin College Art Department, via Zoom
Scratch Space, in conversation with Susanna Temkin, Montalvo Arts Center, via Zoom
Studio Visit 101, CAPX and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, via Zoom
In conversation with Joey Lico, The Cultivist, via Zoom

2020

Art in the Moment, Chicago Humanities Festival, IL, online
Architecture of Community, Wrightwood 659, IL, online
In conversation with Robert R. Shane, The Center for Art & Design at College of Saint Rose, NY, via Zoom
State of the Art 2020: The Aesthetics of Place, The Momentary, AK, via Zoom
Team Work at The Franklin for NADA Art Fair, IL, via Zoom and Youtube
The Open Practice Committee lecture series, DoVA, University of Chicago, via Zoom
Mount Royal School of Art Visiting Artist, Maryland Institute College of Art, Via Zoom
Monuments without Heroes, College Art Association Conference, IL
Transnational Feminisms for The Feminist Art Project, College Art Association Conference, IL
Locate Projects, Visiting Speaker: Edra Soto, University of Tennessee, TN

2019

The Cosmos: Possibilities of a Structure, Edra Soto, Eduardo Terrazas, Dialogues, EXPOChicago, IL
College of DuPage, Visiting Artists Series, Cleve Carney Art Gallery, Glen Ellyn, IL

2018

Creative Chicago: An Interview Marathon, lead by Hans Ulrich Obrist, EXPO Chicago, Chicago, IL
UIC Gallery 400 Voices, Chicago, IL

Brown University, Providence, RI

2017

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

2016

Hanes Visiting Artist Lecture Series, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

SELECTED RESIDENCIES

2024

Montalvo Arts Center, 3Arts Fellow, CA

2023

Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA

2021

Abrons Arts Center Residency in partnership with Pública, La Residencia, NY & PR

2018

Art OMI International Arts Center, Cecily Brown Honorary Fellowship, NY

2017

Headlands Center for the Arts, CA

Arts and Industry residency, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, WI

Project Row Houses, 2:2:2 Exchange in partnership with Hyde Park Art Center, TX

2014

Rauschenberg Artist Residency, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, 3Arts Fellow, FL

2011

Beta-Local, Lecture and residency, PR

Ragdale Foundation, 3Arts Fellow, IL

2000

Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, SAIC Trustee's Scholarship, Skowhegan, ME

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2023

Fouts, Ally, Edra Soto's Graft project comes to the Hyde Park Art Center, Reader (March)

Taylor, Mana, Finding A Lost Landscape, Newcity (January)

2022

Cotter, Holland, Smith Roberta, Best of 2022, New York Times, (December)

Cotter, Holland, Puerto Ricans Expand the Scope of 'American Art' at the Whitney, New York Times, (November)

Mygatt, Ariana, Teaching Freedom: How Learning To Stumble Might Get Us Somewhere..., Art 21, (April)

Trotter, LeeAnn, Expo Chicago Welcomes More Than 140 International Art Exhibitions..., NBC Chicago, (April)

2021

Miranda, Carolina A., Essential happenings, Los Angeles Times, (December)

Steinhauer, Jillian, 3 Art Gallery Shows to See Right Now, New York Times, (August)

Waxman, Lori, DePaul Art Museum reckons with dearth of Latinx artists in U.S. collections, Chicago Tribune, (June)

Boyle, Meka, NADA House, Art Dealer Street, (June)

Meltz-Collazo, Sebastian, Edra Soto: Casas-Islas|Houses-Islands at Morgan Lehman, Arte Fuse (April)

Aranda-Alvarado, Rocio, What is Latinx? See El Museo's La Trienal for the Answer, The LatinX Project (April)

Shane, Robert R., Edra Soto with Robert R. Shane, The Brooklyn Rail (April)

Puertas Cavero, Natalia, Latinx Initiative project brings Latinx representation, Al Dia, (January)

2020

Preston Zappas, Lindsay, Art Insider, KCRW, (November)
Cahill, Zachary, Volume 3, Number 1, Portable Gray (Spring)
Vitali, Marc, Art Installation Aims to Share Messages, Address Racism Head-On, WTTW (July)
Viera Salgado, Natalia, Navigating Colonial Histories, The Latix Project (June)
Roldan Soto, Camile, La Residencia: un proyecto de colaboración, El Nuevo Dia (May)
Kim, Patricia Eunji, Shifting Public Spaces, Monument Lab (April)
Radley, Jack, Crystal Bridges's New Space the Momentary, Artsy (February)

2019

Elbaor, Caroline, 6 Breakout Artists from Across America, Artnet News (November)
Indrisek, Scott, Edra Soto interview, Foundwork Dialogues (November)
Ar, Manisha, Mixed Media and a Clear Messaging, South Side Weekly (July)
Guerrero, Esperanza M., The Franklin, El corazón artístico de Chicago, Contratiempo (Summer)
Reilly, Alison, Mining Personal History to Create Artistic Engagement - cover - CGN (May)
Snodgrass, Susan, Forgotten Forms: Edra Soto and Yhelena Hall, THE SEEN (April)
Hayes, Jeffreen, Artists of Color Take Charge of Art Spotlight, New Art Examiner (Jan/Feb)

2018

Ludwig, Justine, Untitled Art, Preview: Creative Time's Justine Ludwig Favorites, Artspace (December)
Waxman, Lori, Abstraction, Explained, Chicago Tribune, (May)
Dambrot, Shana Nys, Soul Recordings, Artillery Magazine (March)
Norman, Lee Ann, Poppin'Bottles, Newcity Art, (February)
Hawbaker, KT, Edra Soto uses glass bottles to resurrect history, Chicago Tribune (January)

2017

Teruya, Weston, Un-Making interview, Art Practical (November)
Shabaka, Onajide, Dominoes: Bones of Miami, Sugarcane Magazine (July)
Bad at Sports, Episode 582: Edra Soto, (March)

2016

Reichert, Elliot J., Edra Soto's Really Good Year, cover, Newcity Art (September)
Meier, Allison, Grafting Puerto Rican Architecture onto the Lower East Side, Hyperallergic (April)
Quiles, Daniel, Critiques Pick "Present Standard", Artforum (March)
Green, Sarah Urist, PBS The Art Assignment, Art Trip: Chicago (March)
Stumeier, Daniel, Know Yourself at the Luminary, Daily Serving (February)

2015

Grabner, Michelle, Westward Homes, Art in American (January)

COLLECTIONS

Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico
Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Puerto Rico
The Fidelity Investments Corporate Art Collection
Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago
The Poetry Foundation
William Blair Collection
DePaul Art Museum
Google Art Collection
Facebook Art Collection
Berezdivin Collection, Espacio 1414
Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center