

Edra Soto

(b. Puerto Rico) Chicago based | edrasoto.com

Co-Founder, The Franklin, est. 2012 | thefranklinoutdoor.tumblr.com

Selected Education

- 2000 The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Master of Fine Arts, IL
- 1994 Escuela de Artes Plasticas de Puerto Rico, Bachelor of Fine Arts, PR
- 1995 Alfonso Arana's Foundation, One-year Painting Fellowship, FR
- 2000 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, SAIC Trustee's Scholarship, Skowhegan, ME

Selected awards, grants and fellowships

- 2025 Creative Accelerator Fund-2025, Illinois Arts Council Agency, IL
- 2024 Joyce Award, Sculpture Center in Cleveland, Great Lakes Region
Public Art Dialogue Funders Award, College Arts Association, National
- 2023 Next Level, 3Arts Foundation, IL
US LatinX Art Forum Fellowship, National
- 2022 Ree Kaneko Award Winner, Bemis Center, National
Illinois Arts Council Agency, Artist Fellowship Award, IL
- 2020 Joan Mitchell Painters & Sculptors Grant, National
Perto de Lá <=> Close To There, MacArthur International Connections Fund, CH & BR
- 2019 Foundwork Artist Prize, National
- 2018 Cross Currents, MacArthur International Connections Fund, Smart Museum, CH & CU

Selected commissions

- 2025 la sombra que te cobija / the shadow that shelters you, curated by Strongroom, NY
Sun / Shade, curated by The Beltway, CA
Textile Lab & Entrepreneurship Center, Connect Highstar, TX
- 2004 Graft, Doris C. Freedman Plaza, Central Park, Public Art Fund, NY
La Casa de Todos / Everyone's Home, Comfort Station, IL
Graft, Now & There, Central Wharf Park, MA
- 2023 Tropicalamerican, Terminal 5, DCASE, O'Hare International Airport, IL
- 2022 Casa-Isla, Flourish at 50, Chicago Botanic Gardens, IL
Graft Knoxville, Tri-Star Arts, University of Tennessee, permanent, TN
- 2021 Remnants / Restos, with Dan Sullivan, Western Station, CTA Arts in Transit, IL
- 2020 Victoria, Meta Open Arts, Public Art commission, CA
- 2019 Screenhouse, Millennium Park Foundation and DCASE, Boeing North Park, Millennium Park, IL

Selected Lectures

- 2025 Keynote presentation, Deem Symposium, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, IL (forthcoming)
Edra Soto: Distinguished Alumni Lecture, Visiting Artists Program, SAIC & Art Institute of Chicago, IL
In Conversation: Materialities Artists and Curator, Driehaus Museum, IL
Brommel-Hahs Lecture Series, Art + Design Department, Northeastern Illinois University, IL
Public Art Fund Talks: Edra Soto with Carla Acevedo-Yates and Marcela Guerrero, The Cooper Union, NY
- 2024 Artist Talk: Edra Soto, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, Michigan State University, MI
Young Audiences National Conference hosted by Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education, CAPE, IL
Miércoles de SOMA: Conversación con Edra Soto, Lit Luz Festival & SOMA, CDMX
X as Intersection (virtual) US LatinX Art Forum in partnership with El Museo del Barrio, virtual

- 2023 Corporación Piñones se Integra, 3Arts Foundation, Grantmakers in the Arts Annual Conference, PR
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 solo exhibitions

- 2026 title tbd, Museo de Puerto Rico (forthcoming)
the place of dwelling, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, MO (forthcoming)
- 2025 the place of dwelling, Morgan Lehman Gallery, Nada New York, NY
La Casa de Todos / Everyone's Home, The Sculpture Center Cleveland, OH
the place of dwelling, Profile, Engage Projects, Expo Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2024 Edra Soto: lazos terrenales / earthly bonds, Maine College of Art & Design, ME
La Casa de Todos / Everyone's Home, Comfort Station, IL
por la señal, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY
- 2023 Destination / El Destino: A Decade of Graft, Hyde Park Art Center, IL
Graft, Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA
- 2021 Casas-Islas / Houses-Islands, Morgan Lehman Gallery, NY
The Myth of Closure / El Mito del Cierre, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, CA
Graft, Platform series, Moody Center for the Arts, Rice University, TX
Let Love Win, curated by Natalia Viera Salgado, Abrons Arts Center, NY
- 2018 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, University Galleries, Illinois State University, IL

Selected group exhibitions

- 2026 Imagining an Archipelago, The Colby College Museum of Art, ME (forthcoming)
- 2025 MACLA / Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino, CA (forthcoming)
Whose America? National Academy of Design, NY (forthcoming)
Sign O the Times: or Buck-in-Hamm-Palace? LeRoy Neiman Center, Columbia University, NY (forthcoming)
Trópico Agridulce, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Puerto Rico, PR (forthcoming)
Rio, Cuenca hidrográfica de El Yunque, Arte Yunque, PR (forthcoming)
Vaivén: 21st-Century Art of Puerto Rico and Its Diaspora, Katherine E. Nash Gallery, UMN, MN (forthcoming)
The Outwin 2025: American Portraiture Today on view at the National Portrait Gallery, DC (forthcoming)
Chicago Art Book Fair, Barely Fair, IL
Diasporic Collage, CENTRO Gallery, NY
Widening the Lens: Photography, Ecology, and the Contemporary Landscape, Phoenix Art Museum, AZ
A New View of 20th - and 21st-Century, Architecture and Design, Art Institute of Chicago, IL
A Tale of Today: Materialities, Driehaus Museum, IL
Construyendo Memorias, Latinou, MX
- 2024 Diasporic Collage, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, MI
Palimpsest, Mariane Ibrahim, IL
Cut, Luis De Jesus Los Angeles, CA
Clocking In: 2024 Arts/Industry Residents, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, WI
Widening the Lens, Carnegie Museum of Art, PA
- 2023 CAB 5: This is a Rehearsal, Chicago Architecture Biennial, IL
Entre Horizontes, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, IL
- 2022 no existe un mundo poshuracán, Whitney Museum of American Art, NY
We didn't ask permission, we just did it..., Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
- 2021 Estamos Bien, La Trienal 20/21, El Museo del Barrio, NY
Counter Flags, curated by Natalia Viera Salgado, Abrons Arts Center, NY
LatinXAmerican, DePaul Art Museum, IL
- 2020 The Long Dream, Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago, IL
Temporal: Puerto Rican Resistance, Museum of Contemporary Photography, IL
State of the Art 2020, The Momentary, AK
Anarquía y Dialectica en el Deseo, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Puerto Rico, PR
Open House: Domestic Thresholds, 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 Out of Easy Reach, DePaul Art Museum, IL
- 2017 Traduttore, Traditore, Gallery 400, IL
Spots, Dots, Pips and Tiles, Perez Art Museum, FL
Ida y Vuelta, Museo de Historia, Antropología y Arte de la UPR, PR
- 2015 IV Trienal Poli Graáfica de San Juan, Latinoamérica y el Caribe, PR
Know Yourself, The Luminary, MO

Selected residencies

- 2025 Lucas Artists Fellow, Montalvo Arts Center, CA (forthcoming)
Arts and Industry residency, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, WI
Lucas Artists Fellow, Montalvo Arts Center, 3 Arts Fellow, CA

- 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
- 2014 Project Row Houses, 2:2:2 Exchange in partnership with Hyde Park Art Center, TX
Rauschenberg Artist Residency, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, 3Arts Fellow, FL
- 2011 Beta-Local, Lecture and residency, PR

Selected bibliography

- 2025 Jow, Tiffany, Making, The House I Grew Up In: Edra Soto, Untapped Journal (July)
Litt, Steven, Excellent Edra soto exhibition at Sculpture Center..., Ideastream Public Media (July)
Chakerian, Peter, Sculpture Center trains spotlight on works of renowned... Cleveland (May)
Cabrera, Susana, Arte Latinoamericano en las ferias de Nueva York, Artishock revista (May)
Fullana Acosta, Mariela, Edra Soto en su propia piel, Plástica (May)
Trotter, LeeAnn, EXPO Chicago artfair attracts collectors from around the world, NBC Chicago (April)
Cuddy, Alison, Chicago's busiest art couple is shaping the city one project at a time, WBEZ Chicago (April)
Duron, Maximo, The Best Booths at Expo Chicago (April)
Hieggelke, Brian, Five Chicago Gallery Exhibitions at Expo Chicago We're Excited About, Newcity (April)
Cardoza, Kerry, Locals only, Reader (April)
Gil, Iker; Aloï, Giovanni, Art and Materiality, Mas Context (March)
Duron, Maximo The Clemente Unveils New 'Historias', Artnews (March)
Wang, Xuezhong Jenny, "We live in a world with others": An Interview With Edra Soto, Impulse (January)
- 2024 Duron, Maximo, The Year in Latinx Art, Artnews (December)
Hollis, Phyllis, A Conversation with Edra Soto, Podcast Episode 226, Cerebral Women (December)
Duray, Dan, Edra Soto on Puerto Rican Art, Public Sculpture and..., Observer (November)
Duron, Maximo + Mejia, P.; Ramirez, M.; Santana, A., 75 Latinx Artists to Know, Artnews (October)
Ludel, Wallace, Edra Soto: "This kind architecture lives in the background", The Art Newspaper (September)
V. Young, Charles, Central Park State of Mind: Edra Soto Puts the Home in Public Art, Newcity (August)
Pontone, Maya, New Three-Year Art Series will center NYC's Latino Community, Hyperallergic (August)
Picard, Coco, Everyone's Home, Chicago Reader (July)
- 2023 Knick, Shelby, The Brilliance of Noor Riyadh, Forbes (December)
Hawthorne, Christopher, At the Chicago Architecture Biennial, Artists Run Free, New York Times (November)
Snodgrass, Susan, Reviews, Chicago, Artforum (October)
Waxman, Lori, A Piece of Puerto Rico in Chicago, Hyperallergic (June)
Allen, Erin, Artist Edra Soto explores 'belonging' through architectural interventions, WBEZ, PBS (June)
Duron, Maximiliano, Decade long exhibition... Edra Soto Highlights their Cultural Value, ARTnews (April)
- 2022 Cotter, Holland, Puerto Ricans Expand the Scope of 'American Art'..., New York Times (November)
Mygatt, Ariana, Teaching Freedom: How Learning To Stumble Might Get Us Somewhere..., Art 21 (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)
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)
- 2020 Cahill, Zachary, Volume 3, Number 1, Portable Gray (Spring)
Viera Salgado, Natalia, Navigating Colonial Histories, The Latix Project (June)
Kim, Patricia Eunji, Shifting Public Spaces, Monument Lab (April)
- 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)
 Reilly, Alison, Mining Personal History to Create Artistic Engagement - cover - CGN (May)
 Snodgrass, Susan, Forgotten Forms: Edra Soto and Yhelena Hall, THE SEEN (April)
 2018 Ludwig, Justine, Untitled Art, Preview: Creative Time's Justine Ludwig Favorites, Artspace (December)
 Dambrot, Shana Nys, Soul Recordings, Artillery Magazine (March)
 2017 Teruya, Weston, Un-Making interview, Art Practical (November)
 Shabaka, Onajide, Dominoes: Bones of Miami, Sugarcane Magazine (July)
 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)
 2014 Leon de la Barra, Pablo, Dispatch: Puerto Rico, Guggenheim UBS Map, (September)

Collections

Whitney Museum of American Art
 Art Institute of Chicago
 Pérez Art Museum Miami
 Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico
 Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico
 The Poetry Foundation
 Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum
 O'Melveny & Myers LLP
 DePaul Art Museum
 The Fidelity Investments Corporate Art Collection
 Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago
 William Blair Collection
 Google Art Collection
 Private collections