

# 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**  
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**  
Graft, Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA (forthcoming)

Destination / El Destino: A Decade of Graft, Hyde Park Art Center, IL (forthcoming)

**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)

**2022**

no existe un mundo poshuracán, Whitney Museum of American Art, NY

**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, Antropología 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/Graáfica de San Juan, Latinoamerica y el Caribe, PR  
Know Yourself, The Luminary, MO

**SELECTED LECTURES****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**

### **2023**

Montalvo Arts Center, 3Arts Fellow, CA (forthcoming)

### **2022**

Institute of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA (forthcoming)

### **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**

### **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, (December)

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