

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS ST. PETE

THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, ST. PETERSBURG (MFA) ANNOUNCES NEW ACQUISITION AT EXPO CHICAGO AS A 2023 NORTHERN TRUST PURCHASE PRIZE RECIPIENT

Ahua Can by Claudia Peña Salinas is selected for the MFA Collection by Senior Curator of Contemporary Art Katherine Pill



CHICAGO, IL (April 14, 2023) – [The Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg](#) (MFA), is pleased to announce the acquisition of *Ahua Can* by Claudia Peña Salinas at EXPO CHICAGO, the international exposition of contemporary and modern art (April 13 – 16, 2023). The MFA was

one of three institutions awarded the annual Northern Trust Purchase Prize at the tenth edition of the fair. Northern Trust, Presenting Sponsor of EXPO CHICAGO, awarded the Purchase Prize to the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, the Seattle Art Museum, and the Saint Louis Art Museum.

As recipients of the Northern Trust Purchase Prize, curators and directors from each museum selected pieces from the fair's EXPOSURE Section, curated by Aimé Iglesias Lukin, Director and Chief Curator of Visual Arts at Americas Society. The EXPOSURE Section features an international selection of solo and two-artist presentations, and elevates the profile of young international galleries and supports the careers of emerging artists.

The selections of the Northern Trust Purchase Prize by each of the awarded institutions was unveiled at EXPO CHICAGO on April 14 at 12 pm on the Northern Trust Exchange Stage. Senior Curator of Contemporary Art Katherine Pill selected the artwork for acquisition by the MFA. "Claudia Peña Salinas weaves a research-based practice with a rigorous dedication to refined craft, producing a body of innovative conceptual work that is beautiful, evocative, and compelling," said Pill. "*Ahua Can* is an ideal addition to our encyclopedic museum, a work that stands powerfully on its own and will be richly generative in dialogue with our collections. We look forward to welcoming this work and introducing the artist to our community."

"We are incredibly honored to be selected for the 2023 EXPO CHICAGO Northern Trust Purchase Prize. We are so appreciative of Northern Trust's support of the arts both locally and on a greater global scale," said Anne-Marie Russell, Executive Director and CEO of the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg. "It's been a remarkable week, celebrating the opening of *Gio Swaby: Fresh Up* at the Art Institute (an exhibition co-organized between the MFA and Art Institute), experiencing the global art scene at EXPO CHICAGO, and representing the greater MFA community as a recipient of the Northern Trust Purchase Prize. EXPO CHICAGO perfectly represents the collective ability of a healthy art ecosystem—artists, galleries, institutions, art fairs, media, business, collectors, and audience—all working together to amplify the artist's voice through their work."

IMAGE

Claudia Peña Salinas, *Ahua Can*, 2023, Brass, dyed ceramic, wood and shell found objects and thread, postcard, 72 x 50 x 25 inches, Courtesy of the artist and Embajada.

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About the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida

The Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, at 255 Beach Drive NE, is one of the largest encyclopedic art museums in Florida. The mission of the MFA is to engage, educate, and excite the community by collecting, exhibiting, and preserving works of art for the enjoyment of all. The collection includes works of art from ancient times to the present day and from around the world, including ancient Greek and Roman, Egyptian, Asian, African, pre-Columbian, Native American, European, American, and contemporary art. The photography collection is one of the largest and finest in the Southeast. For more information, please visit mfastpete.org and follow @mfastpete on social media.

About Northern Trust

Northern Trust Corporation (Nasdaq: NTRS) is a leading provider of wealth management, asset servicing, asset management and banking to corporations, institutions, affluent families and individuals. Founded in Chicago in 1889, Northern Trust has a global presence with offices in 25 U.S. states and Washington, D.C., and across 23 locations in Canada, Europe, the Middle East and the Asia-Pacific region. As of September 30, 2022, Northern Trust had assets under custody/administration of US\$12.8 trillion, and assets under management of US\$1.2 trillion. For more than 130 years, Northern Trust has earned distinction as an industry leader for exceptional service, financial expertise, integrity and innovation. Visit us on northerntrust.com. Follow us on Twitter [@NorthernTrust](https://twitter.com/NorthernTrust) or Northern Trust Corporation on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/northern-trust).

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About EXPO CHICAGO

[EXPO CHICAGO](#), The International Exposition of Contemporary & Modern Art features leading international galleries alongside a leading platform for contemporary art and cultural programming. Hosted within historic Navy Pier's Festival Hall, EXPO CHICAGO presents a diverse and inventive program, including [Dialogues](#) (presented in partnership with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago) and Exchange by Northern Trust: An Interactive Conversation Around the Art of Collecting, unrivaled talks programs for both public and VIP audiences; [IN/SITU](#), dynamic on-site installations highlighting large-scale sculpture, film, and site-specific work; and major public art initiatives, including [IN/SITU Outside](#), public art installed throughout Chicago Park District locations, and [OVERRIDE | A Billboard Project](#), a curated selection of international artists throughout the city's digital billboard network. The EXPO CHICAGO program also features

an unprecedented commitment to host curatorial initiatives during the exposition, including the [Curatorial Forum](#) in partnership with Independent Curators International (ICI), and the [Curatorial Exchange](#), which partners with foreign agencies and consulates to expand the exposition's global reach. EXPO CHICAGO is the publisher of [THE SEEN](#), Chicago's only international journal of contemporary and modern art criticism, distributed throughout the United States and Europe.

EXPO CHICAGO is presented by Art Expositions, LLC. Under the leadership of President and Director Tony Karman, EXPO CHICAGO draws upon the city's rich history as a vibrant international cultural destination, while highlighting the region's contemporary arts community and inspiring its collector base. For more information on EXPO CHICAGO visit expochicago.com.

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