

Storefront for Art and Architecture

Storefront International Series: Dominican Republic
June 25 – June 30, 2013

Organizing team:

Irina Angulo Luna realized her architecture studies at Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña. She is founder and partner at Estudio Caribe, a practice which has won several important prizes and recognitions in the caribbean context. She's a founding member of the Laboratorio de Arquitectura Dominicana (LAD), and partner at CAEDRO Srl.

Piotr Chizinski is the Gallery Manager and Project Coordinator at Storefront. Chizinski earned a BFA in Sculpture/Photography from Texas Tech University and a MFA from Cornell University in New York. In 2011 he was awarded the Jacob K Javits Fellowship from the U.S Department of Education to cover the costs of his studies. Working with models, materials, drawings, and performance he explores the hidden infrastructure, both social and material, that we interact with in our daily lives. Chizinski has participated in many national and international exhibitions and residencies and continues a practice that seeks to engage with the public and social real with a view to shape and transform human action and historical experience.

Ricardo Valdez Contreras realized his architecture studies at Universidad Iberoamericana. He is founder and partner at Estudio Caribe, a practice which has won several important prizes and recognitions in the caribbean context. He's a founder member of the Laboratorio de Arquitectura Dominicana (LAD), and partner at CAEDRO Srl.

Eva Franch i Gilabert (Chief Curator and Executive Director) is a Catalan architect, researcher, curator and teacher, founder of OOAA (office of architectural affairs). In the Fall of 2010 Franch became the 4th Director of Storefront for Art and Architecture after Joseph Grima, Sarah Herda and Shirin Neshat and Kyong Park. Franch studied at TU Delft, at ETS Arquitectura Barcelona where she received her Master in Architecture with Honors in 2003 and at Princeton University where she received the Suzanne Kolarik Underwood Prize and her M.Arch II degree in 2007. Franch received the La Caixa (2005-2007) full fellowship in residence for postgraduate studies, the Howard Crosby Butler Fellowship, the FAD prize for emerging architects, a Pasajes-iGuzzini prize, a Dragados Foundation prize and she has been a fellow at Schloss Solitude. Franch's work has been exhibited at the Center for Architecture in New York, Korean Institute of Architects in Daegu, FAD Barcelona, NAI Rotterdam, Shenzhen Biennale of Architecture, Venice Biennale among others. Franch has taught at the University of Buffalo as the Peter Reyner Banham Fellow [07-08] and at Rice University [08-10] as the Wortham Fellow acting as the Master Thesis Design Studio Director. Franch has taught the "Ecologies of Excess" and "Atmospheres of utopia" studios and the "Performing Representations", "Utopia as Doubt", "On Banality-On Metaphor" and "Syn-City: a political sensorium" theory seminars. Franch has been a juror and visiting critic in the United States, Australia, Middle East, Asia and Europe. She has lectured nationally and internationally on art, architecture and design and the importance of alternative practices in the construction and understanding of public life.

Rubén Hernández Fontana is a Dominican architect who holds a master degree in Tropical and Caribbean Architecture and a Bachelor of Architecture from Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña. He shares his professional practice with teaching in his alma mater in which holds a prominent position. He's founder and partner at Estudio Caribe, a practice which has won several important prizes and recognitions in the caribbean context. He's a

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founder member of the Laboratorio de Arquitectura Dominicana (LAD), General Secretary of the Dominican Society of Architects, and CEO of CAEDRO Srl.

Sachi Hoshikawa is a Dominican-born architect and real estate advisor. She holds a master in design studies in real estate from Harvard University, a master in engineering from Kyoto University, and a bachelor of architecture from Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña. Her interdisciplinary qualifications have led her to participate in numerous international development projects. She is currently CEO of Miliú, an integrated platform of real estate investment and development in the New York area. Sachi has been a visiting design critic at Columbia University and the Oslo School of Art and Architecture, and a contributor to the architecture magazine Kenchiku Notes. She is co-founder and executive director of the Laboratorio de Arquitectura Dominicana (LAD).

Kara Meyer is the Director of External Relations at Storefront. She has more than seven years of experience organizing events in the arts and cultural sector and has worked in all areas of marketing and development. She has run marketing campaigns locally, nationally and internationally. She has worked for Art in General, which ran an international residency and exchange programs with countries including Poland, Croatia, Romania, and Israel; and the American Dance Festival, which provides international cultural exchange programs for various modern dancers and dance companies through international commissioning and presentation programs.

Emil Rodríguez Garabot holds a degree in architecture from the Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña and a Master's degree in City Planning and Design from the Polytechnic University of Barcelona in Spain. In 2010 he was granted the Hubert Humphrey Fellowship (Fulbright Program) that allowed him to participate in the SPURS Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has more than 10 years of experience working in architecture, urban design and planning for international offices in Spain and the Dominican Republic. He is currently a professor at UNIBE master's degree in sustainable design, has been a visiting critic at Columbia University and AHO in Oslo and a speaker at Colorado State University and MIT. He has a private practice as architect and is a planning consultant for the Dominican Presidency. He is also co-founder of the Laboratorio de Arquitectura Dominicana (LAD).

Haru Sone Melo has over ten years of experience in both public and private sectors with extensive knowledge of the development processes, states organization, and stake holders interactions. Since graduating from Nagoya University in Japan with an MA in International Development and Cooperation, Haru has worked at Kei Company as a language instructor for different Japanese multinational companies and as a socio-economic advisor for potential investors in Latin America with a focus on Central America and the Caribbean.