

# DIASPORA CREATURE

JONATHAN CHIMEN



PARDÓ

HIJA DE MIGUEL Y MARÍA LUFAN

supriza

ART  
CATALOG

# BIOGRAPHY

**Jônatas Chimen Dias DaSilva-Benayon**, or simply 'Jonatas' (b. 1981), is a Brazilian-American multimedia symbolist artist and author. His work explores personal and collective identity amidst a complicated and ever changing cultural landscape. The artist's exploration of identity is often drawn from his own family's history.

Embedded in Jônatas' creations are narratives, emotion, spirituality and personal passion. The artist's works are a blend of traditional Spanish realism and contemporary approaches with alternative materials. In his realism, bold figures and carefully chosen inanimate objects situated against dark backgrounds appear to glow and rise from the canvas. In his conceptual pieces, Chimen uses pastiches of immigration documents, Inquisitional archives, crushed charcoal, thread, cut canvas, fur, nails, personal diaries, and photography. Overall, his message of embracing one's cultural identity and disclosing personal beliefs with pride is a recurring theme in his work.

Jônatas Chimen holds a Bachelor of Arts in Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and a Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts from Florida International University. Jonatas has lectured at the Art Institute of Weston, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute, and Florida International University. His work has been featured at major art museums, galleries, auctions, and venues such as Artexpo New York, Miami Art Week, the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum, and the Jewish Museum of Florida. In 2015, Jônatas Chimen was awarded the title of Artist of the Year by the Anti-Defamation League for his art series titled The Journey.

For more information, visit: [www.jonataschimen.com](http://www.jonataschimen.com)



# ABOUT THE COLLECTION

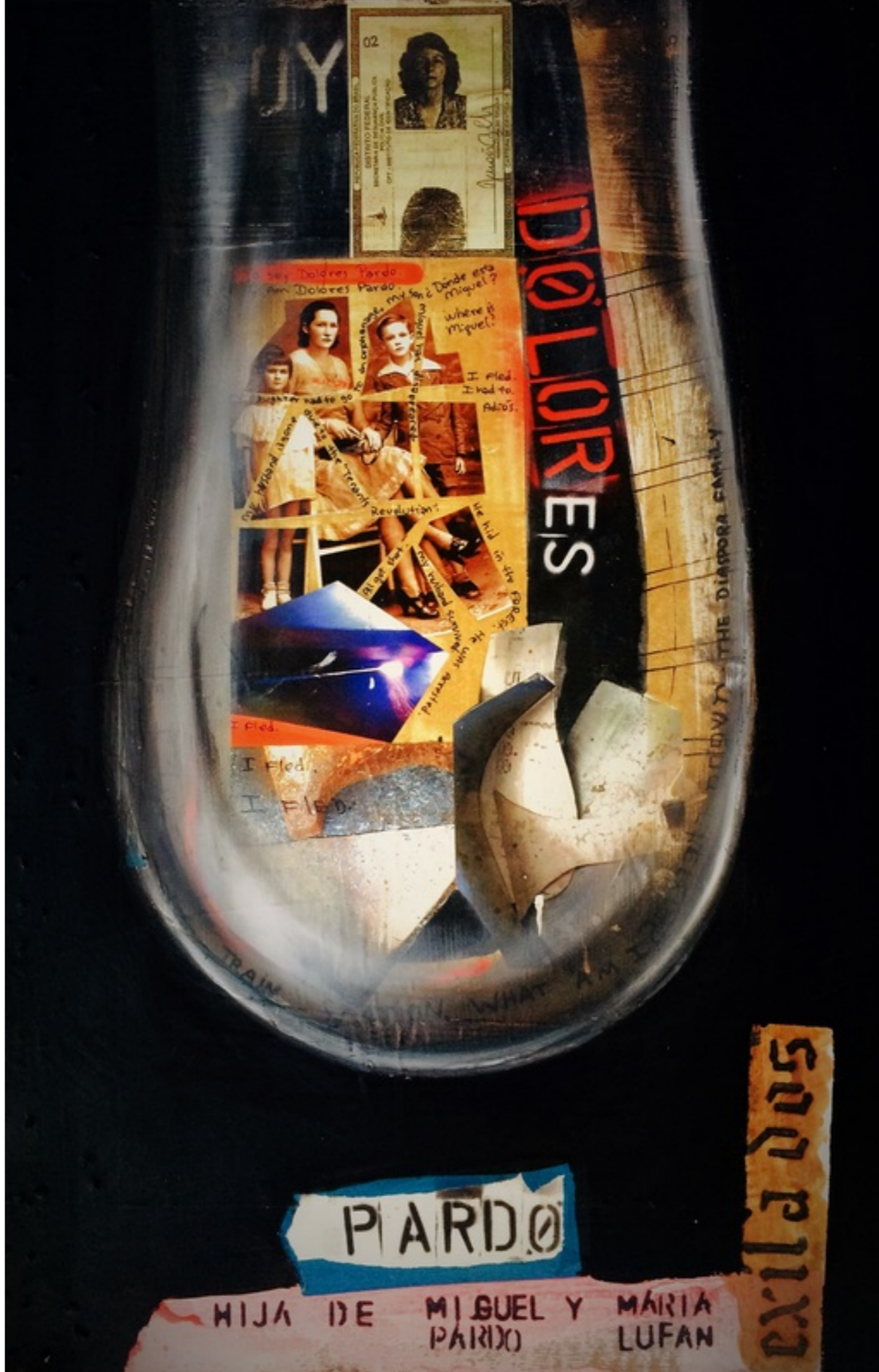
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***The Diaspora Creature*** series is Jônatas Chimen's most introspective memoir-style chronicle about his journey of ancestral mobility. Featured at several museum and gallery exhibits, this highly autobiographical series carries an universal message pertaining to migration, and the determination to start over in a far away land.

In *Diaspora Creature* the artist highlights the psychological landscape of the Diaspora experience, bringing a narrative full of nostalgia, dilemmas, and difficult choices; made across vast stretches of time and space.

Using his own family's archives, memories, and folklore, Jônatas offers a glimpse into what it means to be a Diaspora creature. Each original painting is a 16" x 24" mixed-media composition, and through a blend of materials, this colorful series portrays the strong mindset of hope over despair, life over destruction, and courage over fear.

When looking at this collection, a well-known motto comes to mind; *Dum spiro, spero* – *While I breath, I hope!*



Creature #1, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #2, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #3, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #4, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #5, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"





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#32

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REBEL

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Creature #6, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #7, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #8, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #9, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #10, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #11, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #12 , 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #13, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"

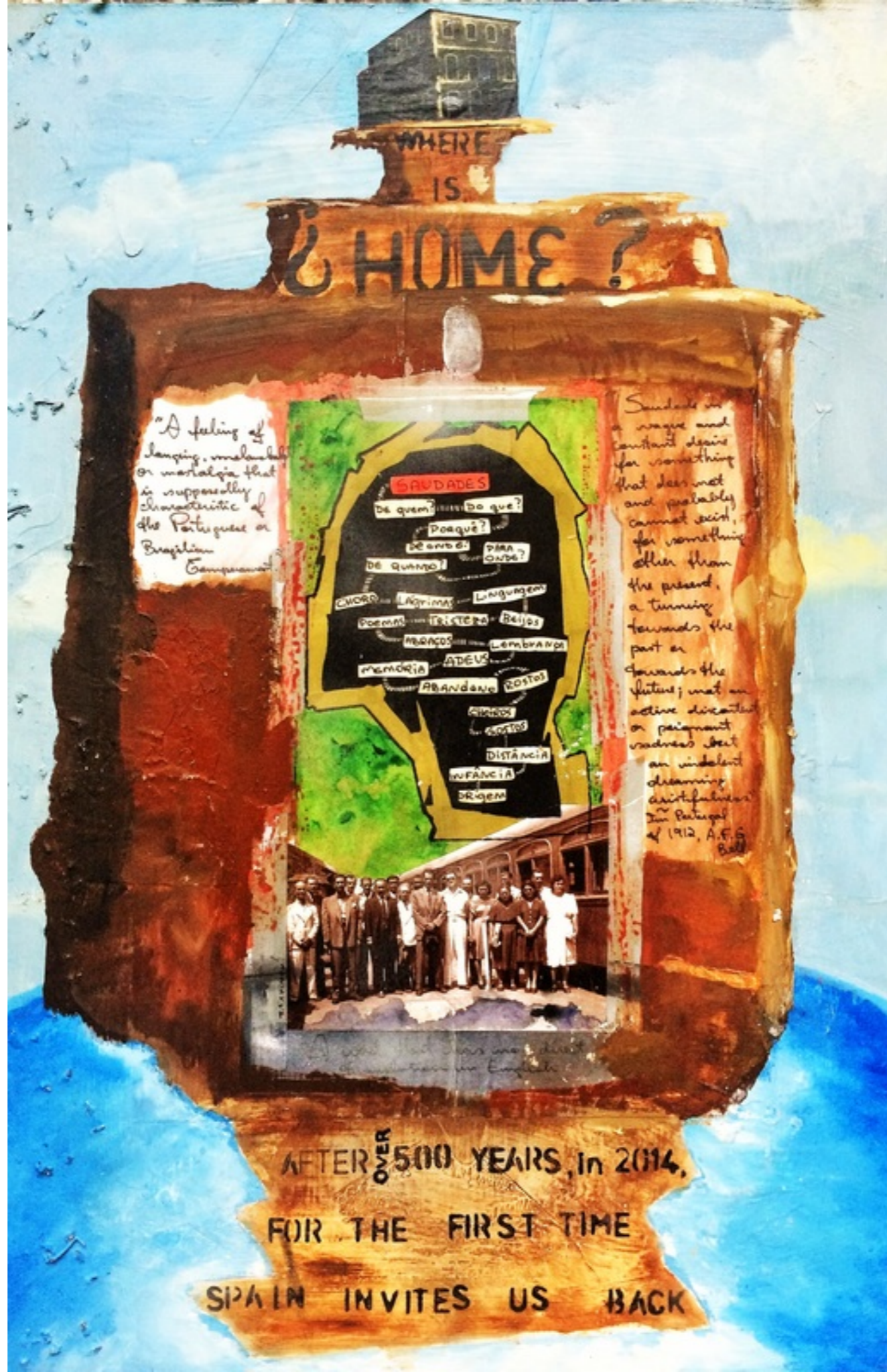




Creature #14, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #15, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #16, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #17, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #18, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #19, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"



Creature #20, 2014  
Mixed Media on Wood Panel, 16" x 24"

# PAST EXHIBITS 2001-2017

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- 2017 -- Artist and Guest Speaker – University of Wisconsin-Madison, The Conney Conference – Madison, WI.
- 2017 – Group Exhibit – The Jerusalem Biennale -- Jerusalem, Israel
- 2017 – IBA Art Center – Boston, MS.
- 2017 – Artist and Guest Speaker – Kulanu – New York, NY.
- 2016 – Group Exhibit – Miami Art Week - Miami River Art Fair (SAN PAUL GALLERY) – Miami, FL.
- 2016 – Group Exhibit – Miami Art Week - Superfine! (CASA MONDO MIAMI) – Miami, FL.
- 2016 – Group Exhibit – Miami Art Week - Individuality (ICON BAY) – Miami, FL.
- 2016 – Group Exhibit – Miami Art Week - (ICON SOUTH BEACH) – Miami, FL
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit – Anniversary of Permanent Collection (THE SPINE CENTER) – Hollywood, FL.
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit – Dum Spiro Spero – (THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT FIU)
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit. A Painter and a Ballerina part II, Collaboration with ballerina Samantha Hope – (SAN PAUL GALLERY) – Wynwood, FL.
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit. A Painter and a Ballerina part I, Collaboration with ballerina Samantha Hope – (SAN PAUL GALLERY) – Wynwood, FL.
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit. In Thy Tent I Dwell, Installation – (THE JEWISH MUSEUM OF FLORIDA) – Miami, FL.
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit. The Visual Narrative on the Wandering Sephardi, Multimedia – (POP UP GALLERY at TEMPLE MOSES) – Miami, FL.
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit and live performance (SAN PAUL GALLERY) – Miami, FL.
- 2016 – Group Exhibit: In Thy Tent I Dwell – (THE PATRICIA AND PHILLIP FROST ART MUSEUM) – Miami, FL.
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit – (JEWISH MUSEUM OF FLORIDA-FIU) – Miami Beach, FL.
- 2016 – Solo Exhibit. Flamenco Sephardit – (THE GALLERY AT TEMPLE EMANU-EL) – Miami Beach, FL.
- 2015 – Solo Exhibit & Installation. Miami Art Week Show. #IAMDIASPORA – (THE GALLERY AT TEMPLE EMANU-EL) – Miami Beach, FL.
- 2015 – Solo Exhibit. Artist of the Year: Journey, A Visual Narrative by Artist Jonatas Chimen – (THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE) – Boyton Beach, FL.
- 2015 – Group Exhibit – “13” - (THE LAUNDROMAT SPACE) – Miami, FL.
- 2015 – Solo Exhibit. 2D, Time-Based Performance, & Lecture (THE SOCIETY FOR CRYPTO JUDAIC STUDIES CONFERENCE) – Miami, FL.
- 2015 – Solo Performance Exhibit. The White Party, – (TEMPLE EMANU-EL) – Miami, FL.
- 2014 – Group Exhibit & Auction. St. Jude Angels & Stars Gala – (ST. JUDE CHILDREN RESEARCH HOSPITAL) - Miami, FL
- 2013 – Group Exhibit & Auction. St. Jude Angels & Stars Gala – (ST. JUDE CHILDREN RESEARCH HOSPITAL) - Miami, FL.
- 2013 – Group Exhibit. Processing Identity – (MBUS, FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY) – Miami, FL.
- 2012 – Solo Exhibit. Orpheum Theaters – (YOUNG JEWISH PROFESSIONALS, YJP) – Madison, WI.
- 2012 – Solo Exhibit. Art & Unveiling of J. Chimen's Artist Edition Seraphine Vodka - (YAHARA BAY GALLERY) – Madison, WI.
- 2012 – Group Exhibit. Masonic Art – (YAHARA BAY GALLERY) – Madison, WI.



# PAST EXHIBITS 2001-2017 (...)

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- 2012 – Group Exhibit. Raw Natural Born Artist – (MAJESTIC THEATER) – Madison, WI.
- 2012 – Solo Exhibit. Social Justice – (THE PYLE CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON) – Madison, WI.
- 2012 – Solo Exhibit – (YAHARA BAY GALLERY) – Madison, WI.
- 2012 – Group Exhibit. Committee Member of Enrique's Journey (Book) Visual Response Show – (UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON) – Madison, WI.
- 2012 – Solo Exhibit – (THE BARBARA HOCHBERG CENTER) – Madison, WI.
- 2011 – Group Exhibit. (UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON) – Madison, WI.
- 2011 – Group Exhibit - (THE BARBARA HOCHBERG CENTER), Madison - WI.
- 2011 – Group Exhibit. Presentation of published article at URS Symposium - (UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON) – Madison, WI.
- 2010 – Group Exhibit & Auction, (EAST BOCA CHABAD) – Boca Raton, FL.
- 2009 – Solo Exhibit – (JONNY DEL'ART GALLERY), Boca Raton, FL.
- 2009 – Group Exhibit – (GALLERY 51) – Boca Raton, FL.
- 2009 – Art Expo NY (represented by GALLERY 51) – New York, NY.
- 2008 – Group Exhibit & Auction – (LESLIE OPERA CENTER) – Las Olas, FL.
- 2008 – Solo Exhibit – (JONNY DEL'ART GALLERY) – Boca Raton - FL.
- 2008 – Solo Exhibit – (JONNY DEL' ART GALLERY) – Boca Raton, FL.
- 2007 – Group Exhibit – (GALLERY 22) – Boca Raton, FL.
- 2007 – Group Exhibit – (THE GARDENS MEMORIAL) – Boca Raton, FL.
- 2006 – Group Exhibit – Le Salon Des Refuses, The Paradox of Affluence. (PHI THETA KAPPA) – Boca Raton, FL.
- 2005 – Group Exhibit – (GENESIS ART GALLERY) – Las Olas, FL.
- 2005 – Group Exhibit & Auction – (ROTARY) – Miami, FL.
- 2005 – Solo Exhibit – (THE ART STUDIO GALLERY) – Boca Raton - FL.
- 2005 – Solo Exhibit – (GAUCHO ART SPACE) – Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
- 2005 – Solo Exhibit – (THE ART STUDIO GALLERY) – Boca Raton, FL.
- 2004 – Student Group Exhibit (THE ART INSTITUTE OF WESTON) – Weston, FL.
- 2003 – Student Group Exhibit (THE ART INSTITUTE OF WESTON) – Weston, FL.
- 2002 – Student Group Exhibit (THE ART INSTITUTE OF WESTON) – Weston, FL.
- 2001 – Student Group Exhibit (THE ART INSTITUTE OF WESTON) – Weston, FL.