



José García Cordero: El Brechero, 2004  
acrylic on canvas, 24 x 31 inches

### **iDominicanazo!**

**Elia Alba, Tony Capellán, José García Cordero, Nicolás Dumít Estévez, Mónica Ferreras, Iliana Emilia García, Scherezade García, Pascal Meccariello, Belkis Ramírez**

#### The New Dominican Wave in Art

Samson Projects is pleased to announce "iDominicanazo!", the long awaited show curated by Dominican gallerist, Camilo Alvarez. Almost a year in the planning, "iDominicanazo!", brings to Boston the most exciting artists from Alvarez's native Dominican Republic. Riding the dynamic art wave swelling throughout the Caribbean and Latin America, Samson Projects presents the most provocative and stirring images from the current Dominican art scene.

In the Dominican Republic, a country in which painting has always prevailed, sculpture is seldom attempted, and performance art is often misunderstood - this group show will include installation, sculpture, video and painting. What unifies this exhibit is the artists' questioning, reflection and ultimate rejection of local restrictions. Through their imagery, they expose their country's social problems - issues of poverty, tourism and "third world" politics. The exhibition decodes and debunks cultural stereotypes as the artists use diverse ways to translate their experiences in relation to their culture, gender and sexual positioning. The local flavor is re-contextualized for international consumption.

**Pascal Meccariello** dictates, "Art is a great delusion, an obstinate rebelliousness that prevents us from being satisfied with the mere appearance of things and imposes upon us the task of seeking its essence". **Mónica Ferreras** psychoanalytical mandala paintings attempt to capture the essence of thoughts. **Elia Alba**'s body suits comment on the ephemeral nature of skin and its cultural labels.

The poignant sculpture by **Tony Capellán**, included in the Samson exhibit, uses found objects to invoke the hunger pains suffered by the country's children while **Belkis Ramírez**, an architect by trade, incorporates wire, fences and netting to depict the distressing position of women in this traditional machista culture. Ramírez, whose work evolved from printmaking, will exhibit sculptures.

Performance artist, **Nicolás Dumít Estévez**, recently received the Franklin Furnace Award and in 2002 was chosen to be part of the National Studio Program at P.S. 1/MOMA. **José García Cordero**, clearly the elder statesman among this group of contemporary artists, divides his time between studios in Santo Domingo and Paris. Cordero creates large-scale paintings that reflect both the duality of his personal experience and the historical clash between European and Caribbean culture.

**Scherezade** and **Iliana Emilia García** are sisters with unique voices. Scherezade questions paradise through a baroque sensibility. She is fascinated with the "duality of everything". Iliana Emilia's multimedia work is strongly experiential as the imagination and curiosity dictates one's encounter.

With the growing interest in Latin American and Caribbean art, two New England museums are also exploring contemporary art from the Caribbean. Coinciding with Samons Projects' "iDominicanazo!", which focuses solely on Dominican artists, the RISD Museum currently has an exhibition on new art from island nations and the Peabody Essex Museum will open an exhibit of contemporary art from the Caribbean in February.

Exhibition: January 21 - February 27, 2005

Gallery hours: Tue-Sun 12 - 6 pm and by appointment

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