

## ANGEL OTERO

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**Angel Otero** was born in 1981 in Santurce, Puerto Rico, where he resided until moving to Chicago in 2004. He currently splits his time between New York and Puerto Rico. In 2009, Otero was included in the exhibition 'Constellations' at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, shortly after receiving his MFA at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Otero's practice is known for employing highly innovative techniques that challenge the parameters of his materials, revealing the intrinsic qualities of paint. His works are rooted in abstract image making and engage with ideas of memory through addressing art history, as well as his own lived experience. Otero is best known for the Oil Skin works he began in 2010, an ongoing series that demonstrates the inherently transformative nature of the artist's practice as well as his dedication to expanding the visual field of abstract expressionism. Using oil paint layered onto glass and peeled off at a partially dried state, Otero recomposes his 'skins' onto canvas to make entirely new images and patterns. This methodical process is extended to his Transfer Series (2013) which utilizes imagery from his own personal history. Referencing historical etchings, the artist traces images drawn from his family photographs into horizontal lines with silicone—he eventually transfers the composition onto a large piece of paper that becomes the plate he will cover in raw pigment. Otero then lays his canvas onto these mediums to create a distorted monotype of the original imagery.

His more recent works have continued to explore chance-based processes and their potential to convey memory and history through materiality. In 2017, Otero debuted a series of large-scale sculptural oil paintings that resemble tapestry. Hanging freely, these works incorporate salvaged materials from his studio, off-cuts of previous paintings, and found objects that are significant to his native Puerto Rico. The many fragments that make up his compositions become powerful meditations on past and present.

The artist's early childhood memories are brought to the forefront in his most recent series of paintings which see a return to figuration combined with his hallmark style of abstraction. Otero paints and collages dreamlike scenes upon his vibrant structured canvases, depicting objects and spaces that are loosely based on personal memories associated with the domestic sphere. Probing the boundaries of figuration and abstraction, Otero's most recent works continue to expand the possibilities of painting and materiality.

Otero's work is in numerous public and private collections including the Berezdivin Collection, Puerto Rico; Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York; DePaul Art Museum, Chicago; Istanbul Modern, Turkey; Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City; Margulies Collection, Miami; Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas; North Carolina Museum of Art; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Speed Art Museum, Louisville; UBS Art Collection, Chicago; and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.



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**B. 1981, SANTURCE, PUERTO RICO**

**LIVES AND WORKS IN NEW YORK AND PUERTO RICO**

**2009 MFA, SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO, CHICAGO, IL**

**2007 BFA, SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO, CHICAGO, IL**

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

#### 2023

*Angel Otero: The Ocean in My Room*, Vito Schnabel Gallery, St. Moritz, Switzerland

*Angel Otero: The Sea Remembers*, Hauser & Wirth, Hong Kong

#### 2022

*Angel Otero: Swimming Where Time Was*, Hauser & Wirth, New York, NY

#### 2021

*The Fortune of Having Been There*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY

#### 2020

*Angel Otero: Broken Record*, Harper's Books, East Hampton NY

*Angel Otero: Present Memory*, Lehmann Maupin, online

#### 2019

*Milagros*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY

#### 2017

*Angel Otero: Elegies*, Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, NY

#### 2016

*Everything and Nothing*, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, TX

*Angel Otero: Murmurs*, Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, Culver City, CA

*Born In The Echoes*, Lehmann Maupin, Hong Kong

#### 2015

*Angel Otero*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY

*Lago*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL

*Pintura Ascendente*, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

#### 2014

*Nuevos Trabajos*, Galería Leyendecker, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain

*Anachronic*, Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects, Los Angeles, CA

#### 2013

*Gates of Horn and Ivory*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY

*Angel Otero: recent work*, Walter Otero Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico

*Material Discovery*, SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah GA, Hong Kong

#### 2012

*The old lansquenet is laughing at us*, Brand New Gallery, Milan, Italy

*New Works: Angel Otero*, Contemporary Art Museum, Raleigh, NC

*Angel Otero*, Galerie Isa, Mumbai, India

*Angel Otero*, Istanbul '74, Istanbul, Turkey

#### 2011

*Memento*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY

*The Dangerous Ability to Fascinate Other People*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL

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### 2010

*Touch With Your Eyes*, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL

### 2009

*Angel Otero*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL

### 2008

*Cooking Boogaloo*, Contemporary Art Workshop Gallery, Chicago, IL

*Angel Otero: Recent Paintings*, Union League Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL

### 2006

*Revelando Enigmas*, Galeria Prinardi, San Juan, Puerto Rico

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

### 2023

*Angel Otero and Leslie Martinez: Current Speed*, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY

*These Days*, Vito Schnabel Gallery, New York, NY

*Escape*, Hauser & Wirth, Southampton NY

### 2021

*The Beatitudes of Malibu*, David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

### 2020

*Artists for Biden*, David Zwirner, online

*Artists for New York*, Hauser & Wirth, New York, NY

*Life During Wartime: Art in the Age of Coronavirus*, University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum, online  
*be/longing*, Lehmann Maupin, Hong Kong

### 2019

*The Other Side of Now: Foresight in Contemporary Caribbean Art*, Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, FL

*Cut: Abstraction in the United States from the 1970s to the Present*, Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, Miami, FL

*With a Capital P: Selections by Six Painters*, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL

*Coffee, Rhum, Sugar & Gold: A postcolonial Paradox*, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA

### 2018

*Gridology*, Lehmann Maupin, Hong Kong

*Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago*, Miriam & Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, New York, NY

*Inherent Structure*, Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus OH

*Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts*, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY

### 2017

*Chaos Theory*, Sag Harbor, New York, NY

*Art Goes Logomo*, Makasiini Contemporary, Turku, Finland

### 2016

*Splotch*, Sperone Westwater, New York, NY

*Surface Area*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY

*Nexo / Nexus: Latin American Connections in the Midwest*, DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL

### 2015

*Civilization and Its Discontents: SAIC Alumni Exhibition*, Sullivan Galleries, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

*Inherited*, BRIC, New York, NY

*The Fire Next Time*, Galería Leyendecker, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain

*Future Seasons Past*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY

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*Piece by Piece: Building a Collection, Selections from the Christy and William C. Gautreaux Collection*, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO

*Horizon*, Lehmann Maupin, Hong Kong

PKM Gallery, Seoul, South Korea

**2014**

*Fusion: Art of the 21st Century*, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA

Between Worlds, Galerie ISA, Mumbai, India

Unbound: Contemporary Art After Frida Kahlo, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL

Mystic Fire, Paradise Row, London, United-Kingdom

Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston, TX

**2013**

*10 under 40*, Istanbul '74, Istanbul, Turkey

*Amor Fati*, Pioneer Works, New York, NY

*A Pinch of Saffron*, Dash of Vermouth, Dodge Gallery, New York, NY

*Xtraction: A Survey of new approaches in abstraction*, The Hole, New York, NY

*Transforming the Known: Works from the Bert Kreuk Collection*, Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, The Hague, Netherlands

6th Prague Biennale, Prague, Czech Republic

*On Painting*, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Les Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Sommer Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv, Israel

*Outside the Lines*, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, Houston TX

**2012**

Sotheby's, New York, NY

*The Sound of Painting*, Palazzo Saluzzo Paesana, Turin, Italy

*Surface in Volume*, Luce Gallery, Turin, Italy

Istanbul '74, Istanbul, Turkey

*Queens International 2012: Three Points Make a Triangle*, Queens Museum, New York, NY

**2011**

*The Second Seating for the Last Supper*, Galería Leyendecker, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain

Oh Wow Gallery, Miami, FL

*El Museo's Biennial: The (S) Files*, El Museo del Barrio, New York, NY

*American Patrons of the Tate and W Magazine*, Kreëmart New York, NY

*NY: New Perspectives*, Brand New Gallery, Milan, Italy

Soho House, New York, NY

The Arts Club, London, UK

Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS

**2010**

*Misericordia*, Prism, Los Angeles, CA

*Touched*, Lehmann Maupin, New York, NY

Circa Art Fair, Walter Otero Gallery, San Juan, Puerto Rico

**2009**

*Constellations*, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL

*Variations on a Theme*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL

Circa Art Fair, Walter Otero Gallery, San Juanm Puerto Rico

**2008**

*New Wave*, Galería Leyendecker, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain

*Fridge*, Normal Projects Gallery, Chicago, IL

*Latino Nation, USA*, University Museum at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL

*New Insight Exhibition*, Art Chicago, Chicago, IL

*Group Painting Exhibition*, Bucket Rider Gallery, Chicago, IL

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**2007**

*You Are In My Space*, Gallery G2 and Project Space, Chicago, IL

*Open and Closed*, Contemporary Art Workshop, Chicago, IL

**2006**

*Universality of Art*, Galeria Prinardi USA, West Palm Beach, FL

*Tributo a Basquiat Puerto Rico*, Galeria Prinardi at Hotel Normandie, San Juan, Puerto Rico

**2005**

*Visions of Excess*, New Space, Chicago, IL

**SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Berezdivin Collection, Puerto Rico

Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, NY

DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL

Istanbul Modern, Istanbul, Turkey

Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City MO

Margulies Collection, Miami, FL

Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS

North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY

Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY

UBS Art Collection, Chicago, IL

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA