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**WITNESS: AFRO PERSPECTIVES, THE SECOND EXHIBIT FROM EL ESPACIO 23, KICKS OFF MIAMI
ART WEEK WITH NOV. 30 OPENING**

The Experimental Art Center's Second Show Explores Issues of Systemic Oppression, Identity and More. Show is Open to the Public via Appointment Only

MIAMI (November 25, 2020) – El Espacio 23 (EE23) - the dedicated art space founded by leading philanthropist, entrepreneur, and contemporary art collector Jorge M. Pérez – will debut its highly anticipated second exhibition, *Witness: Afro Perspectives from the Jorge M. Pérez Collection*, on **Monday, November 30**. Kicking off the iconic Miami Art Week, the show will feature over 100 works by African and African Diaspora artists, and grant visitors the unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the *Jorge M. Pérez Collection*, regarded as one of the world's most extensive private holdings of contemporary art.

“While African and African Diaspora contemporary art has been a nucleus in our collection for years, the sheer depth of talent and social resonance displayed by these artists is truly unbelievable,” said Pérez. “We hope *Witness* will serve as a catalyst for much-needed dialogue around issues of racial equity, political oppression and other troubling issues brought to light amidst these unprecedented times. The entire curatorial team couldn’t be more excited to engage audiences with works that we believe can drive true, long-lasting social change.”

Witness: Afro Perspectives is curated by Tandazani Dhlakama, Assistant Curator at Zeitz MOCAA, in collaboration with Pérez Collection curators, Patricia M. Hanna and Anelys Alvarez. Addressing themes such as systematic oppression, intergenerational trauma, syncretism, identity and territory, the show aims to inspire visitors to bear “witness” to its complex works and reflect on the challenges carried from one generation to another.

“With each show, we look to showcase a new facet of the South Florida community and explore how seemingly far-off cultures influence our own day-to-day life,” said Hanna. “Tandazani did an incredible job of pairing works to tell a story that has both hyperlocal relevance and global perspective – she delves into timeless themes, while showing just how deeply embedded they are in our world today. We are honored to have the opportunity to host such an important show in our current climate.”

Among the 75 well-established and up-and-coming featured artists are David Koloane, a pivotal arts figure in the apartheid-era of South Africa known for his powerful drawings, paintings and collages; Maria Magdalena Campos Pons, an internationally recognized figure with works primarily in photography, performance, audiovisual media and sculpture; and Mikhael Subotzky,

an award-winning artist based in Johannesburg, popular for utilizing film, video and photography; among many others.

In addition to this sophomore exhibit, EE23 is also pleased to welcome Masimba Hwati, the first resident in this cycle of the space's year-round program. Known for his unconventional, three-dimensional mixed-media sculptures, Hwati will be producing new work for the exhibit, including a site-specific piece exploring black identity in 1960's America. Additionally, the Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation will continue to support several emerging artists through a standing partnership with The Fountainhead Residency. The collaboration benefitted numerous artists in 2020, including South Florida local Kathia St. Hilaire; Puerto Rican artist Danielle de Jesus; Ambrose Murray from Western North Carolina and Brooklyn-based Haley Josephs.

Beginning on **Monday, Nov. 30 through Sunday, Dec. 6**, EE23 will be open to the public from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Viewings will be held by appointment only. In accordance with CDC and Miami-Dade County [guidelines](#), face coverings are required for all visitors and staff, and hand-sanitizing stations will be placed throughout all galleries. Social distancing of at least six feet will be strictly enforced.

Regular hours will resume on Dec. 7, with viewing appointments available on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is free to the public. To reserve a time, and for more information about guided tours, please visit www.elespacio23.com or email info@elespacio23.com.

A full artist checklist is available for media upon request.

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