

Museum of Graffiti to present
Gustavo Oviedo: Symbiosis
Opening October 17, 2020



MIAMI, September 7, 2020 — The Museum of Graffiti is proud to present ***Gustavo Oviedo: Symbiosis***, on view from October 17 to November 14, 2020, curated by Museum of Graffiti Co-Founders Alan Ket and Allison Freidin. Video trailer available [here](#).

Over the past 15 years, Oviedo has developed a highly personal, self-taught style of art that explores the relationship between the bustle of Miami's vibrant metropolitan streets and the tranquility of the Biscayne Bay's aquatic life, currents, and marine dystopia.

Gustavo Oviedo, now 39, was born in Paris but was raised in France, Colombia, Venezuela, and Mexico before finally relocating to Miami. In Miami, painting graffiti was a means to learn the city, connect with other teenagers and was a common language that helped him adapt to a new, foreign culture. With Miami's art scene booming and adulthood calling, Oviedo broke away

The logo for the Museum of Graffiti is displayed on a black rectangular background. The word "MUSEUM" is written in a clean, white, sans-serif font at the top. Below it, the word "OF" is written in a smaller, similar font. The word "GRAFFITI" is written in a large, white, stylized graffiti font with thick strokes and a star on the dot of the 'i'. A white curved line underlines the word "GRAFFITI".

MUSEUM OF GRAFFITI

from the clandestine world of graffiti and decided to explore a part of Miami that didn't include abandoned buildings and construction sites—the Biscayne Bay.

Symbiosis includes large paintings of loose sea-like forms, mixed media collages, and visual representations of otherworldliness devoid of human language or graffiti letters. His palette is as colorful as the brightest coral reefs dipped in fluorescent pigments. His ocean discoveries of shipwrecks, corals, and found pieces of pollution give power to his creative output and to a body of work that is rooted in marine life and the impact of the streets of Miami he once painted. Oviedo's work conveys the beauty of our waters but screams out that he is not naïve to the recurring problem of mankind's disrespect for this natural resource. A main focus of the show is a piece entitled "Low Tide Shopping," a massive suspended sculpture comprised of Styrofoam buoys found tangled in the mangroves along South Florida's coastline.

Another mixed media sculpture (pictured above) entitled, "Biscayne Bay Bottles" features glass bottles carelessly discarded into the Bay, dating back to the 1950's, now making their way back to shore thanks to Oviedo. Several other new works will also feature 3-dimensional upcycled marine debris, juxtaposed with Oviedo's adjacent giant fluorescent canvases.

According to Oviedo, "By highlighting the beauty and mystique of South Florida's waters, this exhibit is an opportunity to use my artwork to call attention to a serious issue—the health and preservation of the Biscayne Bay."

The original artworks will be accompanied by a limited-edition print release (\$131), an exclusive silkscreen long sleeve t-shirt (\$60), and a hardcover book with a collection of Oviedo's work and inspirations.

This show will be presented in two adjacent gallery spaces inside the Museum of Graffiti and was made possible in part due to a grant provided by South Arts, a nonprofit regional arts organization who provide Oviedo with funds to purchase the supplies to create *Symbiosis* during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Museum of Graffiti will unveil the "first look" of *Symbiosis* at 11:00 AM on October 17, 2020. The artist will be safely greeting collectors, signing copies of his book and releasing his new print at 3:00 PM. Due to current regulations, timed ticketing will be strictly enforced, with only 6 tickets available every 15 minutes. Guests are encouraged to reserve tickets in advance online at museumofgraffiti.com due to limited availability. Oviedo will discuss the works during a talk at 7PM that will be broadcast live on the Museum's Instagram page @museumofgraffiti.

Oviedo's work has been included at numerous venues, including the Art Center / South Florida, Young at Art Museum, Art and Culture Center of Hollywood, Boca Museum of Art, among



others. He has been a staple on the walls in Wynwood and Overtown with graffiti murals dating back over 2 decades.

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ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF GRAFFITI

Located in Miami's Wynwood District, the Museum of Graffiti is a leading contemporary art museum dedicated to sharing the power of expression, sparking wonder, and inspiring creativity for and about the graffiti art movement. At the Museum of Graffiti, visitors can explore the history of graffiti in an experiential setting with interactive exhibitions and unique shows. The Museum seeks to honor and preserve the unique art form and to exhibit important works for permanent viewing. Through changing exhibitions and programs, the Museum aims to introduce visitors to the artists, paintings, photos, sculptures, works on paper, and designs that have captivated youth and adults for over fifty years, as well as the environment in which the global art movement formed.

The Museum of Graffiti is open to the public with safety-first procedures, including an admission system that only allows for six people to enter the premises every 15 minutes. ***Guests must purchase tickets in advance online or from their mobile devices as they approach the Museum to avoid onsite transactions.***

Tickets: General Admission tickets are \$16; Children 13 and under are free. Tickets are available online and include access to all museum exhibitions. To purchase tickets visit our website from your desktop at home or your mobile device, museumofgraffiti.com

Hours: The Museum of Graffiti is open from 11 AM – 6 PM weekdays and 11AM– 7PM on weekends. Please check www.museumofgraffiti.com for special holidays, extended hours, and unexpected closings.

The Museum will offer a 360-degree virtual online gallery of the exhibition via their website www.museumofgraffiti.com

Location: The Museum of Graffiti, located at 299 NW 25th Street, Miami, FL 33127. For more information, please visit museumofgraffiti.com or email hey@museumofgraffiti.com

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