

Juan Hinojosa

Workspace Program 2020

Multimedia artist Juan Hinojosa explores pop and consumer culture in his work, collaging and juxtaposing brightly colored textiles, toys, papers, and other found objects. His meticulously collected materials reflect the artist's own habits and behaviors, drawing on his background growing up with American pop culture as a child of immigrants.

Hinojosa's work elevates everyday items into vibrant compositions evocative of sacred spaces and rituals. His Portals series made at Dieu Donn , for example, is reminiscent of the stained glass in church windows, but intersperses colorful and playful imagery as stand-ins for religious iconography.

Producing several series over the course of his residency, Hinojosa combined papermaking techniques including blowouts, pulp painting, embedding, debossing, collage, and casting to produce two and three-dimensional works. While Hinojosa often works in collage as a sculptural way of engaging with paper, at Dieu Donn  he was able to further explore paper in its fundamental form.

The works produced during my artist's residency at Dieu Donn  play with a myriad of found objects, layers of pulp, and color itself. The Portal series, (made up of the 8 colors of my version of a rainbow) are non identical versions of each other that possess bright colors along with a nod to UFO crop circles, and satanic imagery. The readymade objects that cover these works have found their way into this series as souvenirs of my consumeristic way of life. The end result is a personal timeline of my journey at Dieu Donn  and my Latinx / American life.

The paper cat sculptures series which did not seem possible, became this lovely surprise brought to life by Amy Jacobs and the team at Dieu Donn . The cats (one mint, purple, and black) are made entirely of paper pulp mixed in with a sea of colorful beads, glitter, and broken jewelry. The cats are a part of a larger series of works that reference the historical glorification of the feline species as godlike beings. My own obsession with cats began during the COVID-19 pandemic when I made a cat at home just to have someone else to speak to. Covid-19 was an extremely isolating time in NY and I have been working on growing my cat army since.

- Juan Hinojosa



Top: Juan Hinojosa, *Portal: Summer*, Paper pulp, fabric, jewelry, sequins, plastic, and found objects on paper, 30 x 22 inches

Bottom Left : Juan Hinojosa, *Wintergreen*, 2022, Paper pulp, jewelry, lace and beads, 17 x 9 x 8 inches

Bottom Right : Juan Hinojosa, *Mississippi Queen*, 2022, Paper pulp, jewelry, lace and beads, 18 x 9 x 8 inches



About the Artist

Juan Hinojosa is a mixed-media artist who currently lives and works in New York. Constructed from found objects, his complex collage-drawings intimately challenge greed, obsessive consumption, and the social stratification of American culture. His conflicts have resulted in a series of work that put on display his own bad habits, desires, and classic American greed. Hinojosa attended Parsons School of Design and was awarded residencies at Material for the Arts (New York), the Vermont Studio Center (Vermont), and LMCC (Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Governors Island COVID-19 Response Residency program). His work has been featured in The New York Times, the Woodside Herald, and Open House New York. Hinojosa's first solo exhibition was at Allegra LaViola Gallery (2012). Since then he has had solo exhibitions at Materials for the Arts (New York), Union College, Schenectady, and he was part of the Biennial at El Museo del Barrio (New York).



About Dieu Donn 

Dieu Donn  is a leading cultural institution dedicated to serving established and emerging artists through the collaborative creation of contemporary art using the process of hand papermaking.

About the Workspace Program

Established in 1990, the Workspace Program offers annual residencies to New York State emerging artists to create new work in handmade paper. The primary goals of this program are to encourage emerging artists to explore the creative possibilities of handmade paper and to develop this art form through a process of collaboration and experimentation. The Workspace Program is presented to the public through an annual exhibition of works produced in this residency program, as well as through print, digital, and online formats. For more information about the Workspace Program, or to learn how to apply, visit www.dieudonne.org.

Support

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Above: Juan Hinojosa working in the Dieu Donn  studio with Studio Collaborator Amy Jacobs, 2020.



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