

cecilia brunson projects

José Jun Martínez (b. 1992, Bayamón, Puerto Rico) is a London-based artist from Puerto Rico. His practice spans a decade of immersive contemplation in natural environments, translating his perceptions and memories into a language of painting materiality.

Rooted in direct encounters with the land, his work explores the entanglement of ecology, colonial history, and perception. Through saturated colour and dense, enveloping compositions, Martínez reimagines landscape as a site of both sensory experience and political memory. Now based in London, his practice draws on over a decade of deep engagement with natural environments, translating lived experience into a distinct painterly language. While untethered from any single point, his works remain grounded in a powerful sense of emotion and liberation.

Martínez holds a BA in Fine Arts from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras and an MA in Painting from the Royal College of Art, London, where he was awarded the Valerie Beston Artists' Trust Prize in 2024. Recent solo exhibitions include *The Hymn of the Toads* (Matt Carey-Williams, London, 2025), *Interludio del Viento* (Galería Leyendecker, Tenerife, 2025), and *Hermano de las Flores* (Museo de San Juan, San Juan, 2025).

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José Jun Martínez

Born in 1992 in Bayamón, Puerto Rico

Lives and works between London, UK and San Juan, Puerto Rico

Education

2024 MA Painting, Royal College of Art, London, UK

2015 BA Humanities - Fine Arts, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2010 Escuela Especializada Central de Artes de Santurce, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2026 *At the centre there is a stillness*, Cecilia Brunson Projects, London, UK

2026 *Donde el Sol se Refugia*, Adhesivo Contemporary, Mexico City

2025 *Perennial Paroxysm*, Ordovas, supported by the Valerie Beston Artist Trust, London, UK

2025 *Hermano de las Flores*, Museo de San Juan, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2025 *The Hymn of the Toads*, Matt Carey-Williams, London, UK

2025 *Interludio del Viento*, Galería Leyendecker, Tenerife, Spain

2022 *Esto también permanece*, SalaFAR, Fundación Ángel Ramos, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2022 *El Abrazo de las Fieras*, Walter Otero Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2022 *La Inmensa Sencillez de las Cosas*, Espacio Emergente, Bayamón, Puerto Rico

2020 *Entretanto: exhibición de obra en proceso*, Walter Otero Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico

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2018 *Dos Lugares y Ninguno*, Walter Otero Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2017 *Ein Waldgänger*, curated by Omar Pascual-Castillo, Nova Invaliden Galerie, Berlin

2016 *All Things New*, Walter Otero Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Selected Group Exhibitions

2024 *Inusuales*, Walter Otero Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2024 *The Epitome of Decline and Decay*, Safehouse 2, London, UK

2024 *MA Painting Public Facing Exhibition*, Royal College of Art, London, UK

2024 *Subasta de Arte Contemporáneo*, Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2024 *Life, still*, Casa Santa Ana, Panama City, Panama

2023 *Segunda Bienal Sala FAR*, Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2021 *Reclamar el suelo, Declamar la tierra*, curated by Arte-Suelo-Ser, Hidrante, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2021 *Nunca es suficiente*, curated by Radamés "Juni" Figueroa, el kilómetro, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2021 *Habitantes: espacio | memoria | identidad*, Museo de Arte de Bayamón, Puerto Rico

2020 *Landmark*, el kilómetro, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2017 *La Colección: Miguel Pou*, Museo de la Historia de Ponce, Puerto Rico

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2016 *Il Gran Bienal Tropical*, curated by Pablo de la Barra, Marina Reyes, and Stefan Benchoam, Piñones, Loíza, Puerto Rico

2016 *Del Natural*, Galería San Juan Bautista, Museo de San Juan, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2016 *Drawing Conclusions*, Walter Otero Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2015 16ta Edición Muestra Nacional de Artes del Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, Antiguo Arsenal de la Marina Española, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Selected Awards

2024 Valerie Beston Artists' Trust Prize, London, UK

2024 Premio Colección Kells, Feria Estampa, Madrid, Spain

2024 Shortlisted for the Chadwell Award, London, UK

2018 Vermont Studio Center, Displaced Artist Fund Fellowship Award

Residencies

2024 Resident Artist, Galerie Leyendecker, Tenerife, Spain

2021-2023 Proyecto de Artistas Residentes de Bayamón, Puerto Rico