

# cecilia brunson projects

Feliciano Centurión (b. 1962, San Ignacio Guazú, Paraguay, d. 1996, Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Feliciano Centurión was born in San Ignacio, in the southern region of Paraguay. He was raised by his mother and grandmother in an ultra-conservative and catholic society, and the family were exiled to Argentina in 1973 under the dictatorship of Alfredo Stroessner. His work employs embroidery and textile, crafts traditionally practiced by women and which are central to Paraguayan culture since the Triple Alliance War, when the country lost ninety percent of its male population. Centurión moved to Buenos Aires in 1980 to study at the national art schools. In the 1990s, he became a core member of the Arte Light movement, centred around the Centro Cultural Ricardo Rojas (El Rojas). Centurión exhibited several times at El Rojas, in many ways exemplifying the aesthetic choices of that generation of artists, whose explorations of subjectivity incorporated a kitsch and exuberant, almost Baroque style.

After being diagnosed with HIV, Centurión worked in increasingly small and intricate formats. He embroidered animals and mythical beings, in keeping with Paraguay's Guaraní weaving traditions, and used his own text, too, often in reference to his ill-health. In common with Félix González-Torres, ACT UP, José Leonilson, and General Idea, the use of sentiment and traditionally feminine visual languages puts Centurión at the centre of this generation of artists who began to explore gender and sexuality in the 1990s. Although his career was tragically short, he remains a central but little-recognized figure of recent contemporary art history.

Centurión's work has been celebrated in a number of recent solo exhibitions, including *Telas y Textos* at New York University's Institute of Fine Arts, US (2023), *Feliciano Centurión: Abrigo*, Americas Society, New York, US (2020) and *Feliciano Centurión: I am Awake*, Cecilia Brunson Projects, London, UK (2019). He was also exhibited at the 13th Shanghai Biennale, *Bodies of Water* in 2021, and the 33rd Bienal de São Paulo, *Affective Affinities* (2018), and has been included in important recent group exhibitions including *Unravel: The Power and Politics of Textiles in Art*, Barbican, London and Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2024-5), *Threads to the South*, ISLAA, New York (2024) and *Every Moment Counts—AIDS and its Feelings*, Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Oslo, 2022. Cecilia Brunson Projects represents the artist's estate and works closely with Feliciano's family.

This document was updated on 17 April, 2026. For reference only and not for purposes of publication. For more information, please contact the gallery.

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Feliciano Centurión

Born in 1962 in San Ignacio, Paraguay

Died in 1996 in Buenos Aires, Argentina

## Education

Prilidiano Pueyrredon School of Fine Arts, Buenos Aires

School of Fine Arts of the Nation, Ernesto de la Corcova, Buenos Aires

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

2025 *Feliciano Centurión: Sol naciente*, Ortuzar, New York, US

2024 *Feliciano Centurión: Hope in Bloom*, Cecilia Brunson Projects, London, UK

2023 *Telas y Textos*, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, New York, US

2022 *Feliciano Centurión: Everyday Beauty*, Galeria Millan, São Paulo, Brazil

2020 *Feliciano Centurión: Abrigo*, Americas Society, New York, US

2019 *Feliciano Centurión: I am Awake*, Cecilia Brunson Projects, London, UK

2016 National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Ireland

2013 *Feliciano Centurión: Las intensidades de la belleza*, Centro Cultural de España Juan de Salazar, Asunción, Paraguay

2012 *Bocetos y dibujos. Papeles previos by Feliciano Centurión*, Galería Alberto Sendrós, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2004 *Feliciano Centurión*, Galería Alberto Sendrós, Buenos Aires, Argentina

1999 *Feliciano Centurión — Últimas obras*, Centro Cultural de España Juan de Salazar, Asunción, Paraguay

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- 1997 Galería Ruta Correa, Freiburg, Germany
- 1996 Centro de Artes Visuales Isla de Francia, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1994 *Estrellar*, Centro Cultural Ricardo Rojas. Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1994 *Feliciano Centurión*, Centro Cultural Ricardo Rojas, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1993 *Feliciano Centurión*, La Galería, Manzana de la Rivera y Centro Cultural de la Ciudad, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1992 *Pinturas: Feliciano Centurión*, Centro Cultural Ricardo Rojas, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1992 *5 años en el Rojas*, Galería del Centro Cultural Ricardo Rojas, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1991 *Al natural*, Pequeña Galería, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1990 *Frazadas: Feliciano Centurión*, Galería Fábrica, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1987 *Pintura de Feliciano Centurión*, Galería Arte Sanos. Asunción, Paraguay
- 1985 *Visiones*, Sala de Exposiciones Aerolíneas Argentinas, Formosa, Argentina
- 1985 *Pintura fresca*, Sala de Exposiciones Aerolíneas Argentinas, Formosa, Argentina

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2024-25 *Unravel: The Power and Politics of Textiles in Art*, Barbican, London, UK; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2024 *Threads to the South*, Institute for Studies on Latin American Art (ISLAA), New York, US

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2024 *Hecho a Mano*, Cecilia Brunson Projects, London, UK

2022-24 *Third Eye: The Costantini Collection in Malba*, Fundación Malba, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2022 *Aó Episodios Textiles De Las Artes Visuales En El Paraguay*, Fundación Malba, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2022 *Every Moment Counts—AIDS and its Feelings*, Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Oslo, Norway

2022 *Eros Rising – Visions of the Erotic in Latin American Art*, Institute for Studies on Latin American Art (ISLAA), New York, US

2021 *Bodies of Water*, 13th Shanghai Biennale, Shanghai, China

2021 *Look After Each Other: Intimacy and Community*, Tang Museum, New York, US

2019 *Portadores de sentido: Arte contemporáneo de la Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros*, Museo Amparo, Puebla, Mexico

2018 *Affective Affinities*, 33rd Bienal de São Paulo, Brazil

2011 *Recovering Beauty. The 1990s in Buenos Aires*, Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, Texas, US

2011 *Arte argentino actual en la colección de MALBA*, Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires (MALBA), Argentina

2009 *El rojas: 20 años de artes visuales*, Centro Cultural Ricardo Rojas, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

2009 *Escuelismo . Arte argentino de las 90*, Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires, Argentina

2007 *Arte contemporaneo*, MALBA—Fundación Costantini, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2007 *4 años: Colectiva*, Galería Alberto Sendrós, arteBA O7. Buenos Aires, Argentina

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- 2005 *Exposición de ayuda positiva*, House of Lisa Swart of Fadul, Asuncion, Paraguay
- 2005 *Diverse and Similar*, Centro Cultural de España Juan de Salazar, Asunción, Paraguay
- 2002 *Subjetiva. Belleza y felicidad en retrospectiva 1999 — 2002*, Galería Belleza y Felicidad. Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1999 *Szene Buenos Aires*, Galerie Ruta Correa, Freiburg, Germany
- 1997 *El Tao del Arte*, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1996 *Salón Hugo del Carril – Premio Fundación Banco de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires*, Museo de Arte Moderno, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1996 *Las Artes Plásticas en Formosa – Homenaje a Feliciano Centurión*, Fundación Crisólogo Larraide, Formosa, Argentina
- 1996 *Frío / Caliente*, Centro Cultural Borges, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1996 *Objetos – 8 artistas de los países del mercosur*, Salas de Exposiciones de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA), Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1996 *Teko Paraguay*, Maison de l'Amérique Latine, Paris, France
- 1994 5th Havana Biennial, Cuba
- 1994 *Feliciano Centurión Mónica González*, Instituto de Cooperación Iberoamericana, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1994 *Premio Fundación Nuevo Mundo*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1994 *Tres Artistas Paraguayos*, Galería Lertina, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 1994 *Después del eclipse*, Galería El Aleph, Asunción, Paraguay

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- 1994 *III Bienal Martel*, Manzana de la Rivera y Centro Cultural de la Ciudad, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1994 *90 60 90*, Fundación Banco Patricios, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1993 *Del borde*, Fundación Banco Patricios, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1993 *Archipiélago*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Casa de la Cultural Mario Quintana, Porto Alegre, Brazil
- 1993 *Los más jóvenes artistas de Ruth Benzacar*, Galería Ruth Benzacar, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1993 *Premio Fundación Nuevo Mundo*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1993 *Premio Honorable Consejo Deliberante*, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1993 *II Concurso, La ciudad convoca a sus creadores*, Honorable Consejo Deliberante de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1993 *¡Viva la muerte!*, Parakultural New Border, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1992 *Premio Fundación Nuevo Mundo a la Nueva Pintura Argentina 1992 – Premio Especial, Antonio Seguí*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1992 *Voces emergentes*, Jornadas de la Crítica – Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1992 *Algunos artistas*, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1992 *Segunda Bienal Martel de Pintura*, Centro de Artes Visuales, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1991 *Preludio*, Centro Cultural Ricardo Rojas, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

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- 1991 *Cinco artistas Paraguayos*, Galería Centoira, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1991 *Fundación Amalia La Croze de Fortabat – Premio Joven Pintura Argentina 1991*, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1991 *Bienvenida Primavera*, Centro Cultural Ricardo Rojas, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1991 *Premio Blades*, Harrods en el Arte, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1990 *Premio Martel de Pintura*, Centro de Artes Visuales, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1990 *Superficies iluminadas*, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1990 *Gráficos – Serigráficos*, Pequeña Galería, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1989 *Obrabierta 89*, Centro de Artes Visuales, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1989 *Premio Fundación Manliba*, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1988 *Obrabierta 88*, Centro de Artes Visuales, Asunción, Paraguay
- 1988 *Tres por Tres*, Centro de Arte y Comunicación, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1988 *Tres por Tres*, Museo Paraguayo de Arte Contemporáneo, Asunción, Paraguay  
Museu de Arte de Rio Grande do Sul (MARGS), Porto Alegre, Brazil
- 1986 *De la Cárcova 1986*, Centro Cultural de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires and Museo Municipal de Artes Plásticas Eduardo Sívori, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1985 *50 Salón de Otoño*, Centro Cultural las Malvinas, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1985 *Concurso Homenaje de Jóvenes Pintores – Año Internacional de la Juventud*, Centro Cultural de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1982 *Muestra Jóvenes Artistas*, Estímulo de Bellas Artes, Asunción, Paraguay

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## Selected Awards and Honours

1996 Buenos Aires City Bank Foundation Award, Hugo Del Carril Hall, Museo de Arte Moderno, Buenos Aires, Argentina

1994 New World Foundation, Prize of Prizes in Commemoration of the First, Five Years, National Museum of Fine Arts, Buenos Aires, Argentina

1993 New World Foundation Award for The New Painting Argentina 1993, Special Award Luz Castillo and Feliciano Centurion, National Museum of Fine Arts, Buenos Aires, Argentina

1992 New World Foundation Award, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina

1990 Third place at the Martel Biennial of Painting, Visual Arts Centre, Asunción, Paraguay

1989 Award from the Manliba Foundation, Centro Cultural de Buenos Aires, Argentina

## Selected Public Collections

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York

Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin

Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires (MALBA)

Museo Castagnino + Macro, Rosario, Argentina

The Amalia Lacroze de Fortabat Art Collection, Buenos Aires