

Pepe López Reus

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Distinctions & Residencies

- **2025** Kino Saito Residency, Upstate New York, USA
 - **2024** El Espacio 23, Jorge Pérez Collection, Miami, USA
 - **2017** Best Solo Show, AICA, Venezuela – *Pepe Lopez, Escape Room*
 - **2015** Best Young Artist, AICA, Venezuela
 - **1998** UNESCO-Aschberg Artist Residency, London, UK
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Selected Group Exhibitions

2025

- *The Unknown and its Poetics*, Kino Saito, Upstate New York, USA

2024

- *Ensamble*, Project Room with Miguel La Corte, Carmen Araujo Arte Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela
- *Books of Art*, Ivory Press and Carmen Araujo Arte Gallery, Madrid, Spain

2023

- *Lines and Stones*, Toluca Fine Art, Paris, France

2022

- *Labor and Materials*, 21C Museum, Kansas City, USA

2020

- *Modern Figurations in Recurrence*, Carmen Araujo Arte Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela
- *Oculos*, Baro House, Madrid, Spain

2019

- *Bearers of Meaning*, Cisneros Collection, Amparo Museum, Puebla, Mexico
- *Labor and Materials*, 21C Museum, Kentucky, USA
- *Broken Idols*, Maële Gallery, Paris, France
- *Postcards from the Future*, Baro House, Madrid, Spain

2018

- *Caracas Reset*, La Colonie, Paris, France

2017

- *Collapsed Republic*, Baby Castles Gallery, New York, USA

2016

- *The Situation*, Cuenca, Spain
- *New Territories*, Amparo Museum, Puebla, Mexico
- *You Are What You Eat*, United Nations, New York, USA
- *New Territories*, Albuquerque Museum, USA

2015

- *New Territories: Design, Art and Craft from Latin America 2000-2013*, MAD Museum, New York, USA

2014

- *Frank Popper Contemporary Art Collection*, Elysee Pavilion, Paris, France
- *Unexpected Conversation*, Black Square Gallery, Miami, USA
- *Contemporary Crosses*, Alejandro Otero Museum, Caracas, Venezuela

2013

- *Utopias of Illusion*, Kiosco, NUBE Gallery, Santa Cruz, Bolivia

2012

- *5x5, Real-Unreal*, Acarigua-Araure Museum, Venezuela
- *6th Marcigny Biennial*, France
- *Gego: Testimonials and Validity*, Contemporary Art Museum, Caracas, Venezuela

1991-2011

- *Southern Cartographies*, Contemporary Art Museum, Rosario, Argentina
 - *Double Perspectives*, Bolivar Hall & Maddox Arts, London, UK
 - *8th Havana Biennial*, Havana, Cuba
 - *Hereford Photography Festival*, Hereford, UK
 - *WAR*, The Puffin Room, New York, USA
 - *Contemporary, New Acquisitions*, Alejandro Otero Museum, Caracas, Venezuela
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Selected Solo Exhibitions

2025

- *Guapisimas*, Dot Fiftyone Gallery, Miami, USA

2023

- *Bandwō*, Project Room, Dot Fiftyone Gallery – Cerquone Gallery, Miami, USA
- *Todasana 2023*, Performance, Painted Drums for Todasana Village, Venezuela

2021

- *Knots and Paradoxes*, Carmen Araujo Arte Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela

2018

- *Crisálida*, Ruya Maps Foundation, Fitzrovia Chapel, London, UK
- *Root/Route*, Dot Fiftyone Gallery, Miami, USA

2017

- *EscapeRoom*, Espacio Monitor, Caracas, Venezuela

1989-2013

- *Stairway to Heaven*, Dot Fiftyone Gallery, Miami, USA
- *Todasana 2012*, Performance, Painted Drums for Todasana Village, Venezuela
- *Pepe López at the French Embassy*, Caracas, Venezuela
- *Oxigone Punk & the Gossip Lines Series*, 13-Jeannette Mariani Gallery, Paris, France
- *Money Boom*, 13-Jeannette Mariani Gallery, Paris, France

Publications & Catalogues

- **"Pepe López's Crisálida: Memory, Materiality, and Loss in the Venezuelan Diaspora"**, *Latin American and Latinx Visual Culture*, University of California Press, 2025
 - **"Notas sobre la diáspora venezolana actual: la Crisálida de Pepe López"**, *Revista de Arte Ibero Nierika*, Universidad Iberoamericana, 2019
 - **"Remains–Tomorrow: Themes in Contemporary Latin American Abstraction"**, edited by Cecilia Fajardo-Hill, Hatje Cantz, 2022
 - **"Portadores de sentido: Arte contemporáneo en la Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros"**, Fundación Cisneros, 2019
 - **"Crisálida"**, Ruya Maps Foundation, Fitzrovia Chapel, London, 2018
 - **"Labor and Materials"**, 21C Museum, Kansas City, USA
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Pepe López Reus is a multidisciplinary artist whose work delves into the complexities of identity, memory, and social transformation. Through a blend of sculpture, performance, installation, and photography, López examines pressing societal issues such as consumerism, violence, and the alienation inherent in modern life. Central to his practice is the reimagining of everyday materials—particularly urban remnants like discarded plastics and packaging—which he transforms into powerful, poetic objects that speak to themes of cultural displacement and individual reinvention.

López's artistic approach is both introspective and performative, often incorporating community-based, participatory projects that dissolve the boundaries between artist and audience. One of his most notable ongoing works, *Ponchos*, transforms plastic bags into wearable sculptures that symbolize the identities we adopt and shed. These pieces act as rituals of metamorphosis, inviting audiences to reflect on their own experiences of liberation and transformation. Through this work, López challenges hierarchical distinctions between high and low culture, seeking to create spaces where art transcends the gallery and becomes a shared, communal experience.

Over the years, López has exhibited internationally in renowned venues such as the *Havana Biennial*, *Mercosul Biennial*, *New Territories* at MAD Museum in New York, *Albuquerque Museum*, *Amparo Museum* in Mexico, and *The Unknown and its Poetics* at Kino Saito (2025). His work has garnered critical acclaim, including the *Best Solo Show* award from AICA Venezuela and a prestigious *UNESCO Aschberg Artist Residency*, *El Espacio 23* in Miami and *Kino Saito* in New York.

A significant milestone in the academic recognition of López's practice is the inclusion of his work in *Latin American and Latinx Visual Culture* (University of California Press, 2025). Additionally, his practice was the subject of the article "*Notas sobre la diáspora actual: la Crisálida de Pepe López*", published in *Revista de Arte Ibero Nierika* by Universidad Iberoamericana (2019). López's work is also featured in key publications such as *Portadores de sentido* (Fundación Cisneros, 2019) and *Cecilia Fajardo Hill's* book on Latin American abstraction.

Collaboration is at the core of López's philosophy. Through participatory projects like *Como en la Tele* and *Sugarfree*, he fosters collective creativity, engaging local communities in the art-making process. At its essence, López's work celebrates the transformative power of art. His practice encourages viewers to reconsider their perceptions of value, identity, and the everyday. Through his ongoing exploration of materials, context, and collaboration, López continuously pushes the boundaries of what art can be, creating spaces for reflection, reinvention, and collective expression that invite both personal and social transformation.