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## Davidoff Art Initiative Announces First Dominican Artist in Residence – Mónica Ferreras de la Maza

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Davidoff Art Initiative announces the first Dominican artist to take part in the Davidoff Art Residency Program will be Mónica Ferreras de la Maza, who will be in residence at International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) in New York City, September 1 – November 30, 2013.



Mónica Ferreras de la Maza, *Alegría*, 2012

Basel, Switzerland, August 13, 2013 – [The Davidoff Art Initiative](#), in partnership with the [International Studio & Curatorial Program \(ISCP\)](#) in New York City, is pleased to announce Dominican artist Mónica Ferreras de la Maza as the first artist to take part in the international Davidoff Art Residency, which provides Dominican and Caribbean artists the opportunity to participate in leading residency programs worldwide. Ferreras de la Maza will take up her residency at ISCP from September 1 through November 30, 2013 and she will participate in the ISCP open studio visit in November.

“We are very pleased to welcome the first artist to participate in the Davidoff Art Residency program,” said Andrés Szántó, the New York-based Chief Consultant to the Davidoff Art Initiative’s Art Advisory Council. “The Residency Program is the centerpiece of the Davidoff Art Initiative. Since the launch of the Davidoff Art Initiative, in 2012, we have been working toward this moment, and we could not be more pleased to partner with ISCP to give Mónica this opportunity to work in their extraordinary space and community this fall.”



The Davidoff Art Residency seeks to help emerging and mid-career Dominican and Caribbean artists develop their skills, make new connections within global artistic networks, earn exposure for their work, and share their expertise with others. It serves as a conduit for professional mobility, cultural immersion, and creative exchange, to benefit and bring more visibility to contemporary artists in the Caribbean regions.



ISCP, New York. Image from the ISCP Facebook page.

Each year, approximately five artists will be offered the opportunity to participate in selected leading international artist residency programs. Davidoff has announced three international partners residencies to date, in addition to Ferreras de la Maza's residency at ISCP: Künstlerhaus Bethanien Berlin, Germany, from April 1 through June 22, 2014, with Jorge Pineda; and Red Gate Gallery Residency in Beijing, China, from May through June 2014, with the artist to be announced in late 2013.

Looking ahead, the Davidoff Art Residency will also offer artists from outside the Caribbean region the opportunity to participate in a residency program for international artists in the Dominican Republic. The Davidoff Art Residency is in the planning stages with The Altos de Chavón School of Design, in La Romana, to finalize collaboration for the residency for international artists. The residency would accept its first visiting artists January 2015 through March 2015. A limited number of positions reserved for curators and writers working on projects of relevance to Caribbean artists. Details of the Caribbean residency program will be announced later this year.



Portrait of Monica Ferreras De la Maza. Image courtesy of the Davidoff Art Initiative

**About Mónica Ferreras de la Maza:**

Based in the Dominican Republic, Mónica Ferreras de la Maza (b. 1965, Dominican Republic) has worked for 20 years as a visual artist across a range of media including painting, drawing, installation and video art. Her work focuses on the contemporary urban culture of the Dominican Republic and the youth of marginalized neighborhoods in Santo Domingo. Manifested in her art is the artist's exploration of the psychological and sociological perspectives on the state of her surroundings, raising questions about social class, the influence of tradition and consumerism on local and, ultimately, universal levels.

Mónica Ferreras de la Maza has presented 12 solo exhibitions in galleries and cultural centers in the Dominican Republic and in the United States. Group shows across the United States, Europe, Latin and South America include: Inside and Out: Recent Trends in the Arts of the Dominican Republic, BID Cultural Center, Washington, DC, USA; Entre-Veus, Fondation Clement, Martinica; Latitudes – Exposition D' Art Contemporain, Centro ITAU Cultural, Sao Paulo, Brasil; Island Nation, Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence, RI, USA; VideoAkt, GlogauAIR Art Center, Berlin, Germany; Cambridge Multicultural Center, Cambridge, MA, USA; ETTER COLUMBUS.COM, Arte Contemporáneo de Haití y Rep. Com; Kunstnernes Hus, Oslo; Política de la diferencia: Arte Ibero-Americano de fin de Siglo, Centro de convenciones Pernambuco, Recife, Brasil; and Museo de arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

**Abut the [Davidoff Art Initiative](#):**

The Davidoff Art Initiative supports contemporary art and artists in the Caribbean, strengthens art organizations in the Dominican Republic, shares knowledge and expertise about contemporary art, and fosters cultural engagement between the Caribbean and the rest of the world.

At the core of the Art Initiative, Davidoff aims to give back to the Dominican Republic cultural community, where much of its production and so many of its employees are based, bring opportunity and visibility to the art and culture of the Caribbean region, extending the company's long-standing commitment to artistry, craftsmanship, community and quality.

The Davidoff Art Initiative's four global program areas are: the Davidoff Art Residency, Davidoff Art Dialogues, Davidoff Art Grants, and Davidoff Art Editions.



## ARC Magazine

ARC Inc. is a non-profit print and online publication and social platform launched in 2011. It seeks to fill a certain void by offering a critical space for contemporary artists to present their work while fostering and developing critical dialogues and opportunities for crucial points of exchange. ARC is an online and social space of interaction with a developed methodology of sharing information about contemporary practices, exhibitions, partnerships, and opportunities occurring in the Caribbean region and throughout its diasporas.



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