

YOAN CAPOTE ISLA

BEN BROWN FINE ARTS

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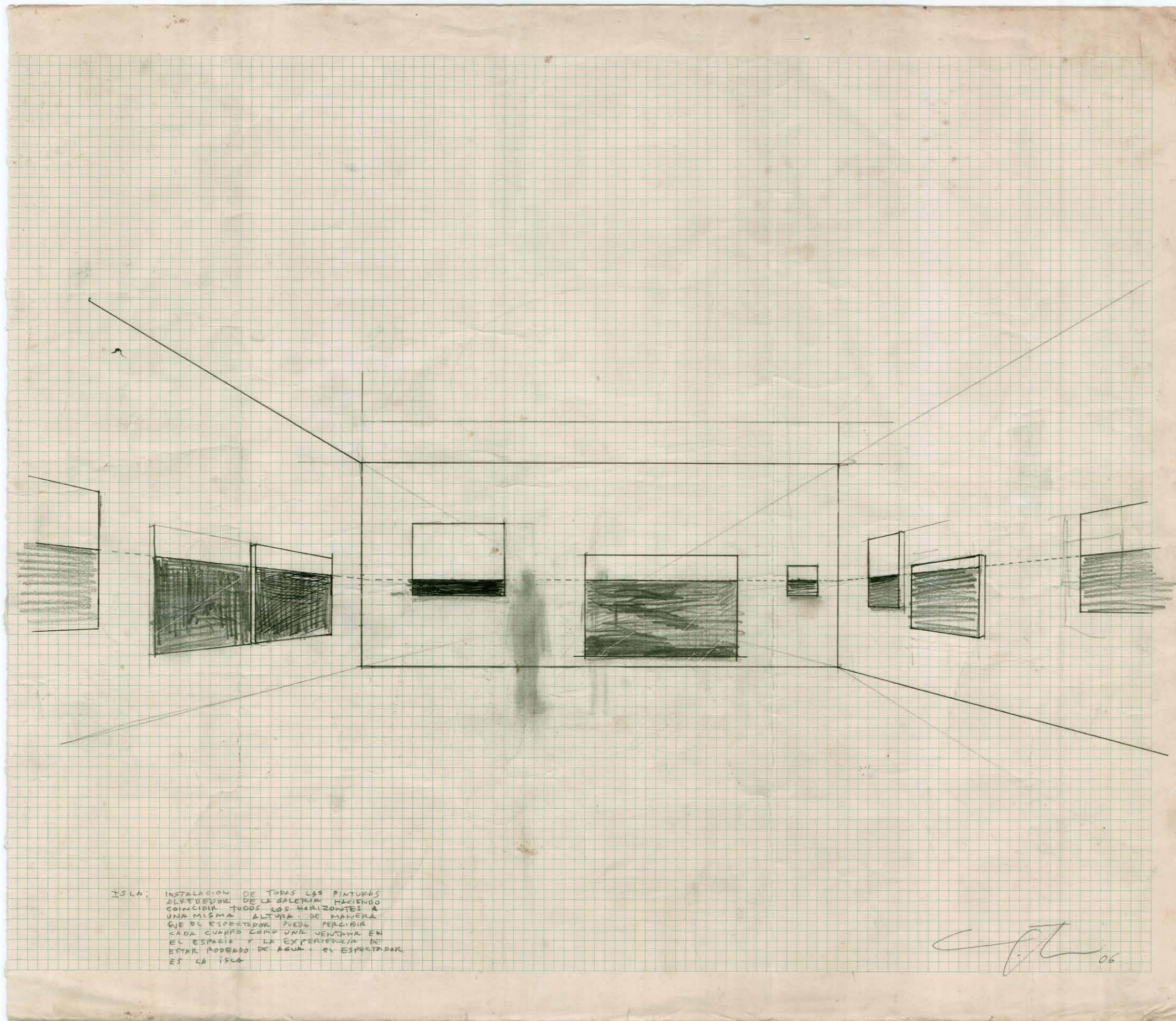
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BEN BROWN FINE ARTS

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ISLA: INSTALACION DE TODAS LAS PINTURAS
ALREDEDOR DE LA GALERIA HACIENDO
COINCIDIR TODOS LOS HORIZONTES A
UNA MISMA ALTURA. DE MANERA
QUE EL ESPECTADOR PUEDA PERCIBIR
CADA CUADRO COMO UNA VENTANA EN
EL ESPACIO Y LA EXPERIENCIA DE
ESTAR PODERADO DE AGUA. EL ESPECTADOR
ES LA ISLA

[Signature] 06

The sea is an obsession for any island population...

When I was a child, I looked to the horizon and would imagine the world beyond. The sea represents the seductiveness of these dreams, but at the same time danger and isolation.

The Iron Curtain, a concept from the Cold War that I read about for the first time during history classes when I was student, was my inspiration behind this series of seascape paintings.

I wanted to use thousands of fishhooks to create a surface that would be almost tangible to the viewer upon their approach; this would become the tactile experience of standing in front of a metal fence. The fishhook itself is an ancient tool that has kept its design for centuries and which is also symbolic of seduction and entrapment.

For Cubans the seascape imposes a political and ideological limit that has been dividing families, ideas and feelings for several generations; it is a mental wall between the present and the future that affects the collective conscience like a permanent fascination.

- Yoan Capote



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FOREWORD

I am extremely proud to present the exhibition *Isla*, Yoan Capote's second solo exhibition with the London gallery. Yoan's first exhibition with the gallery two years ago was a great success and as the Cuban art scene continues to garner international attention, Yoan has emerged as a pioneering figure in this rapidly expanding community of acclaimed artists.

Isla is an exhibition conceived by Yoan as an installation for the gallery space; the vanishing points of his twelve iconic 'fishhook paintings' merge to form one continuous horizon line. They envelope the viewer, they transmit an energy and a sense of seclusion; they are not merely representations of the sea and the sky but explorations of spiritual and physical boundaries. Yoan's dramatic fishhook paintings are clearly informed by his experiences

growing up and living in a politically turbulent and isolated nation, but there is a universal dialogue to them that transcends the autobiographical.

This show would not be possible without many people, so thank you all for your support. In particular, I would like to extend a special thanks to Andreas Hecker, who has been working on this show very closely with Yoan for two years, and who has invested so much time and energy into its success. Thank you again Andreas, we are thinking of you. This exhibition is a testament to Yoan's dedication and enthusiasm and I look forward to many more projects together.

I look forward to seeing you in the gallery.

Ben Brown
London















Fig. 1
Isla (Albedrío), 2014



Fig. II
Isla (Punto de Fuga), 2015



Fig. III
Isla (Pared de las Palabras), 2012



Fig. IV
Isla (Olvido), 2014





(previous)
Fig. V
Isla (Negro y Blanco), 2015

(right)
Fig. VI
Isla (Nada), 2015



Fig. VII
Isla (Mar de Nubes), 2015



Fig. VIII
Isla (Limbus), 2015

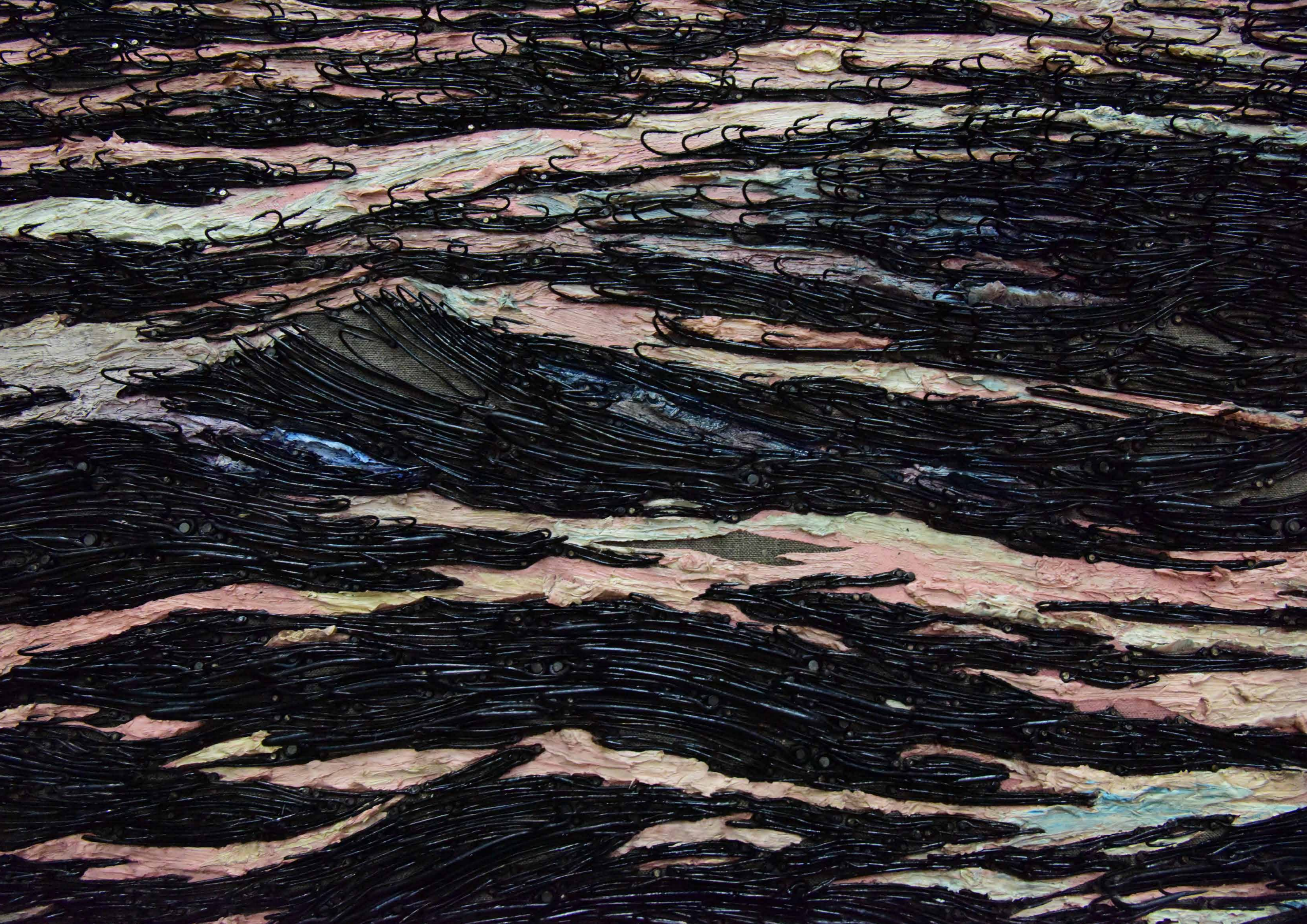




Fig. IX
Isla (Gris), 2015

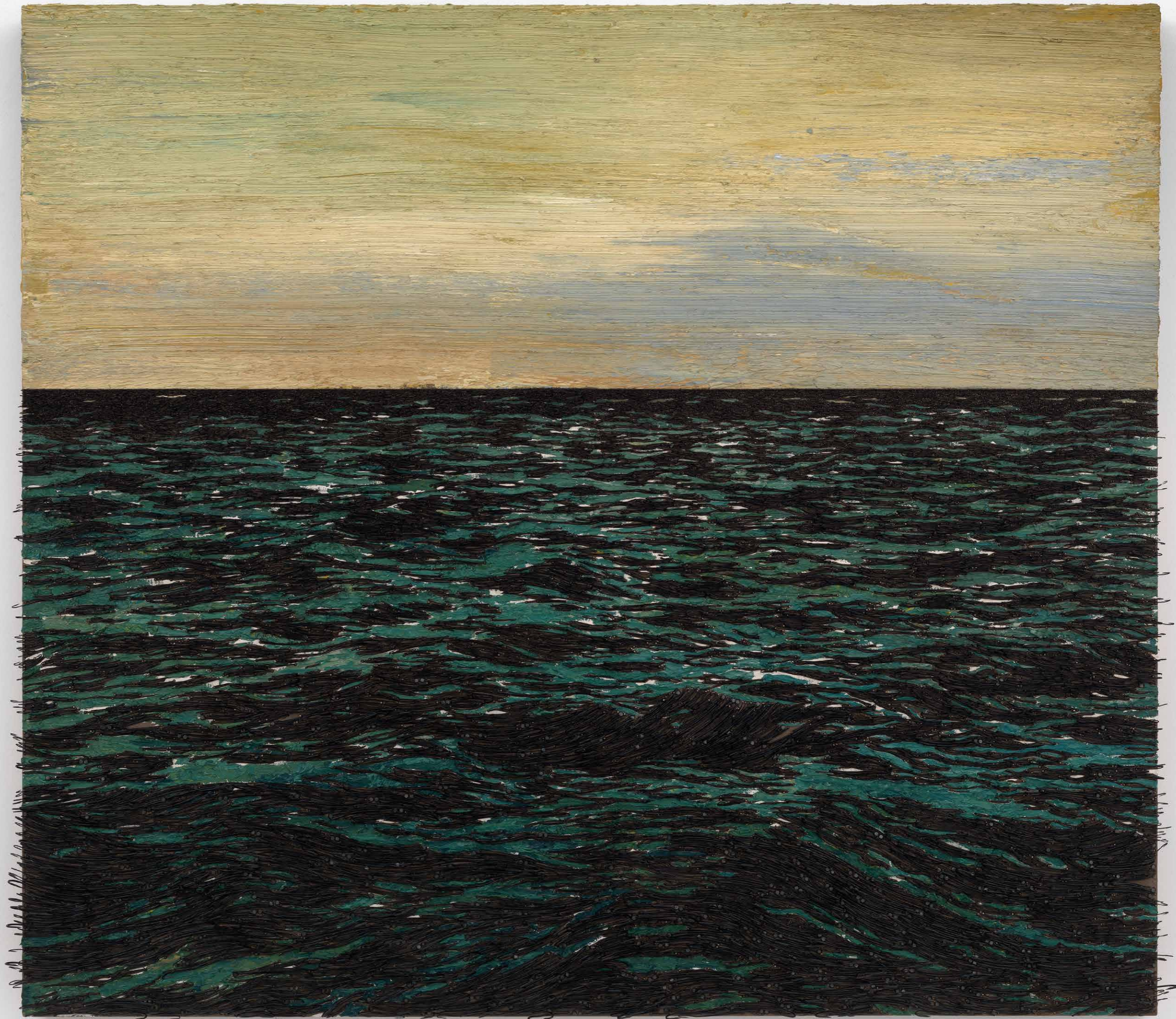


Fig. X
Isla (Ecepticismo), 2015





(previous)
Fig. XI
Isla (after Géricault), 2015

(right)
Fig. XII
Isla (Ilusión), 2013



Fig. XIII
Isla (Rojo), 2014



Fig. XIV
Isla (Achrome I), 2015

List of Works



Fig. I
Isla (Albedrío), 2014
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
111 × 134 × 7 cm (43 3/4 × 52 3/4 × 2 3/4 in)



Fig. II
Isla (Punto de Fuga), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
2 parts, 130 × 153 × 9 cm (51 1/8 × 60 1/4 × 3 1/2 in) each



Fig. III
Isla (Pared de las Palabras), 2012
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
150 × 206 × 11 cm (59 1/8 × 81 1/8 × 4 3/8 in)



Fig. IV
Isla (Olvido), 2014
Oil, nails and fish-hooks on linen panel on plywood
121 × 126 × 8 cm (47 5/8 × 49 5/8 × 3 1/8 in)



Fig. V
Isla (Negro y Blanco), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
104 × 157 × 8 cm (41 × 61 3/4 × 3 1/8 in)



Fig. VI
Isla (Nada), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
102 × 128 × 11 cm (40 1/8 × 50 3/8 × 4 3/8 in)



Fig. VII
Isla (Mar de Nubes), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
145 × 168 × 11 cm (57 1/8 × 66 1/8 × 4 3/8 in)



Fig. VIII
Isla (Limbus), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
112 × 147.5 × 10.5 cm (44 1/8 × 58 1/8 × 4 1/8 in)



Fig. IX
Isla (Gris), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
102 × 127 × 11 cm (40 1/8 × 50 × 4 3/8 in)



Fig. X
Isla (Ecepticismo), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
145 × 168 × 12 cm (57 1/8 × 66 1/8 × 4 3/4 in)



Fig. XI
Isla (after Géricault), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
203 × 312 × 16 cm (79 7/8 × 122 7/8 × 6 1/4 in)



Fig. XII
Isla (Ilusión), 2013
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
80 × 120 × 7 cm (31 1/2 × 47 1/4 in)



Fig. XIII
Isla (Rojo), 2014
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
96 × 125 × 7 cm (37 3/4 × 49 1/4 × 2 3/4 in)



Fig. XIV
Isla (Achrome I), 2015
Oil, nails and fishhooks on linen panel on plywood
78.5 × 82 cm. (30 7/8 × 32 1/4 in.)





YOAN CAPOTE

Born in Pinar del Rio, 1977
Lives and works in Havana

Education

1988-1991 Provincial School of Art, Pinar del Rio
1991-1995 National School of Art (ENA), Havana
1996-2001 Higher Institute of Art (ISA), Havana
2001-2003 Professor of Visual Art, Higher Institute of Art (ISA), Havana

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2015**
Isla, Ben Brown Fine Arts, London
Collective Unconscious, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013**
Emotional Objects, Ben Brown Fine Arts, London
Rerum Alter Natura, Long House Reserve, East Hampton, NY
- 2012**
Fonemas y Morfemas II, with Iván Capote, Galería Habana, Havana
- 2011**
In Tran-sit, 21c Museum, Louisville, KY
Fonemas y Morfemas, with Iván Capote, Galería Habana, Havana
- 2010**
Mental States, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY
- 2008**
Psicomorfosis, Galería Habana, Havana
- 2006**
Pensamientos Paralelos, Havana Galerie, Zurich
- 2004**
Animica- New Sculpture and Drawings, George Adams Gallery, New York, NY
- 2003**
Drawings and Projects, Brownstone Foundation, Paris
- 2001**
El Diseño de lo Híbrido, Galería Habana, Havana
- 1999**
ULM (Huéleme), Galería Carmelo González, Havana
- 1998**
Tracc Bakk Track, Galería 23 y 12, Havana

Selected Group Exhibitions

2015

Enhanced!, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

2014

Nuit Blanche, Toronto, ON

Beyond the Classical: Imagining the Ideal Across Time, National Academy Museum, New York, NY

2013

Cuban Forever, Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH

2012

XI Bienal de la Habana, Havana

Fonemas y Morfemas II, Galería Habana, Havana

Adjoining Islands: The Cuban Pavilion in Manhattan, SRDR Enterprises, New York, NY

2011

LIV Venice Biennale, Venice

L'Insoutenable l'égèreté de l'être, Yvon Lambert, New York, NY

Cuba Now, 21c Museum, Louisville, KY

2010

Portugal Arte 10, Primeira Bienal de Portugal, Lisbon

Without Mask, Johannesburg Art Gallery (JAG), Johannesburg

En Otra Dimensión, Galería Habana, Havana

Los Impolíticos, Palazzo delle Arti Napoli (PAN), Naples

Polaridades Complementarias, New Orleans Art Museum, New Orleans, LA

Panamericano, Kurimanzutto, Mexico City

2009

Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki

Confluencias II: Inside Arte Cubano Contemporáneo, The National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM

X Bienal de la Habana, Havana

HB, Pabexpo Exhibition Complex, Havana

2008

Erótica, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana

State of Exchange, Institute of International Visual Art (INIVA), London

Surrounded by Water, Boston University Art Gallery, Boston, MA

2007

Killing Time, Exit Art, New York, NY

Inside/Outside, George Adams Gallery, New York, NY

Waiting List: Time and Transition in Contemporary Cuban Art, City Art Museum of Ljubljana (MGML), Ljubljana

Cero, Salón Blanco del Convento San Francisco de Asís, Havana

2006

Case Studies: Art in a Valise, Katonah Museum of Art, New York, NY

Contemporary Cuban Drawing, Paul Sharpe Contemporary Art, New York, NY

Pacemaker: Contemporary Cuban Art, Edward Day Gallery, Toronto, ON

Obsessions, Edward Day Gallery, Toronto, ON

Inner Cities, Centro de Artes Visuales "Luz y Oficio", Havana

Doble Blanco, Galería Villa Manuela, Havana

2005

Body Language, George Adams Gallery, New York, NY

2004

Cuba from the Inside Looking Out I, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

New Installations, Artists in Residence: Cuba, Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA

Benchmark, Longhouse Reserve, East Hampton, NY

Just on Time, Galería Habana, Havana

The Future is Now, Paul Sharpe Contemporary Art, New York, NY

Collector's Show, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR

Bush-Whack!, George Adams Gallery, New York, NY

2003

VIII Bienal de la Habana, Havana

Ciudad Múltiple, International Exhibition in Public Spaces, Panama City

Sentido Común, Galería Habana, Havana

2002

International Show, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT

La Huella Múltiple, CDAV, Havana

100 Years of Art in Pinar del Rio, Pinar del Rio Art Museum (MAPRI), Pinar del Rio

2000

VII Bienal de la Habana, Havana

Zoom, Galería Convenio Andrés Bello, Bogotá

Con un Pensar Abstraído, Proyecto DUPP, Galería Habana, Havana

ARCO Contemporary Art Fair, Fair Site Juan Carlos I, Madrid

1999

A Ras de Tierra, Architects College, Havana

Los Desvelos del Cíclope, Espacio Abierto, Havana

II Festival de Performance, Proyecto DUPP, Havana

Con un Pensar Abstraído, Proyecto DUPP, Havana

La Época, Centro Comercial La Época, Havana

VII Salon of Erotic Art, Mariano Rodríguez Gallery, Havana

1998

II Salón de Arte Contemporáneo, La Fototeca de Cuba, Havana

II Bienal de Escultura, Havana

I Performance Festival "Ana Mendieta", Galería UNEAC, Havana

1997

VI Bienal de la Habana, Havana

1995

El Molino Rojo, Casa del Joven Creador, Havana

1994

V Bienal de la Habana, Havana

Public & Private Collections

21c Museum Hotel, Louisville, KY

The Alford Collection of Contemporary Art, Winter Park, FL

Arizona State University Art Museum, Tempe, AZ

Beelden aan Zee Museum, The Hague

Buhl Collection, New York, NY

CIFO, Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami, FL

Daros Latinamerica AG, Zurich

Farber Collection, New York, NY

Kadist Art Foundation, Paris and San Francisco, CA

Karen and Robert Duncan, Lincoln, NE

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC

Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH

Awards, Residencies & Fellowships

2006

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, New York, NY

2005

Pollock-Krasner Foundation Award, New York, NY

2004

Invited artist, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
Residency, Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA

Grant and fellowship, Cuban Artists Fund, New York, NY

2003

Residency, Brownstone Foundation, Paris

2002

Fellowship, Vermont Studio Center, Vermont
Residency, American Friends of the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba, New York, NY
Mention (Curator Prize), Consejo Nacional de las Artes Plásticas, Havana

2000

UNESCO Prize, VII Bienal de la Habana, Havana
Curator Prize, Consejo Nacional de las Artes Plásticas, Havana

1998

Fellowship, Ludwig Foundation of Cuba, Havana
First Prize, II Bienal de Escultura, Havana



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