



FERMIN FLEITES

SCULPTOR DRAFTSMAN ANTHROPOLOGIST AI SPECIALIST

"I present to you my work, a vision of Art, from the perspective of Cultural Anthropology, from the barbarism of Culture itself."

Miami, Florida
ferminfleites.com

Left: *The Winner*, 2022. Bronze, edition 3/6, on a tie from Henry Flagler's railroad. Right: *The Fault*.

Profile

Born in rural Cuba and raised in Cienfuegos among Abakuás, Christians and Santeros, Fermin Fleites took from that childhood the stance he calls the Participant Observer, and it runs through everything he has made since. He began formal art training at ten, went on to the National School of Arts and the Higher Institute of Arts in Havana, and completed a Master's in Media and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Havana.

Later, more than four years in the Peruvian Amazon turned his studies, in his words, into “experiences of interaction with real human groups,” and into the charcoal drawings of *Del Periplo Camino de las Velas*. He works in charcoal, bronze, wood, photography and mixed media, and lives and works in Miami.

His work has been shown at The Metropolitan Pavilion in New York and is in the permanent collection of the Center for Cuban Studies, New York.

ETERNITUDE *“a mixture of virtue and eternity. It’s not just about being eternal; it is about recognizing our place in the continuum of human endeavor.”*

His coined word, and his definition

Education

2026	Artificial Intelligence — two certificates BIG school, Máster de Inteligencia Artificial (240 h) · Universidad Isabel I, Experto en Inteligencia Artificial (150 h, 6 ECTS) · VERIFIED
2003	Master in Media and Cultural Anthropology, University of Havana, Cuba
1995–2000	Higher Institute of Arts (ISA), Havana, Cuba
1991–1993	Professional School of Arts, Trinidad, Cuba
1989–1991	National School of Arts (ENA), Havana, Cuba

Qualifications

Master's Degree in Media and Cultural Anthropology
Specialist in Arts
Technical in Arts
Professor in Art and Design

Selected Exhibitions

- 2019** *Plotted Cities*, solo exhibition, Lima–Callao Urban Planning Biennial, Peru
- 2014** Art Basel stand, Art and Beyond, Miami – West Palm Beach, Florida
CAFÉ exhibition, Switzerland
- 2013** *CAFÉ: The Journeys of Artists and Writers of the Cuban Diaspora*, Cremata Gallery, Miami, Florida
African Roots / Raíces africanas, Cuban Art Space, Center for Cuban Studies, New York
- 2012** *Un Cortadito en Calle 8*, CAFÉ project, Cremata Fine Art, Miami, Florida
CAFÉ exhibition, Barbados
- 2011** *Peruvian Photographers*, Americas Museum, Doral, Florida
- 2010** *Hispanic Heritage Video*, Bruker Gallery, Germany
Art Nights, U.S. Embassy Association, National Museum, Lima, Peru
- 2005** *Celebrating Diversity* World Photo Expo, Humanity Photo Awards (HPA), China
- 2004** *Celebrating Diversity* World Photo Expo, Humanity Photo Awards (HPA), Aichi, Japan
Film and Video Biennial, Lima, Peru
Art Nights, U.S. Embassy Association, Lima, Peru
Artists of the Gallery, Praxis International Art Gallery, Lima, Peru
Colors of Our Earth, Immaculate Conception School, Lima, Peru; Reisepavillon, Hannover, Germany
- 2001** *Casa de la Amistad Cuba–Chile*, Havana Biennial, curated by Natalia Bolívar Aróstegui, Havana, Cuba
Mafererefun, Grimshaw-Gudewicz Art Gallery, Bristol Community College, Massachusetts
Spring Art, Artesanos Art Gallery, Miami, Florida
- 2000** *Mafererefun Cuba: Africa Spirituality in Cuban Art*, The Metropolitan Pavilion, New York
Market Culture III, Salvador de Bahia, Brazil
Art Nights, U.S. Embassy Association, Lima, Peru
100 Years of Art in Trinidad, Castle of the Royal Force Museum, Havana, Cuba
- 1999** *Contemporary Cuban Art*, Onda Gallery, Portland, Oregon
- 1998** *VI Havana Biennial*, Higher Institute of Arts (ISA), Havana, Cuba
II Salon of Contemporary Cuban Art, Higher Institute of Arts (ISA), Havana, Cuba
The Art of Tobacco, Boston, Massachusetts
Old Havana, Light Point, North Carolina
Art Expo auction, Moose's Restaurant, San Francisco, California

Collaborations & Commissions

Colossus in Progress

2017–2022 · Hialeah, Florida

With Alexander Morales: a commemorative mural commissioned for the Hialeah Public Library, a City of Hialeah project.

Maelstrom

2014 · Park Avenue, New York

With Alice Aycock: painted aluminum, part of *Park Avenue Paper Chase*; carried out through EES LLC, Fort Lauderdale.

Big John's Bar & Grill

Bimini, The Bahamas

A commissioned visual identity and mural, built from data: the island's history and mythology, and what people share on Facebook and search on Google while they are there.

Collections

Permanent collection

Center for Cuban Studies, New York

Museum of the Nation, Peru — *Chronicles of the Ninth Voyage*

Praxis collection, Lima — *IV Hallazgo*

IPNA private collection — *Chronicles of the Fifth Voyage*

PRM International private collection — *Chronicles of the Fourth Voyage*

Private collectors, directly through ferminfleites.com, and as NFTs

Critical Reception & Press

"Fleites has a great capacity to integrate the sources of artistic production of our days: anthropology, psychology, history and ethnography."

"A work of art not only interesting, intelligent and fun, but full of reflections, humor and ambition."

Élida Román, curator and critic, "An Artist to Follow," on *Let me tell you...*, Praxis Art Gallery, Lima

Julienne Gage, "Science of Santería: Do a little happy trance," *NBC News*; interview conducted for *Arte Mundo Latino*, 2008

"Featured Artist: Fermin Fleites," *Artsy Shark*, November 27, 2023

Yanet Pérez Moreno, "Un Cortadito en Calle 8, nueva muestra del proyecto CAFÉ en Miami," *Cubaencuentro*, June 20, 2012

"Arte con raíces afrocubanas en New York," *OnCubaNews*, on *African Roots*, 2013

Selected Works

Del Periplo Camino de las Velas

Chronicles of the Journey of the Path of Candles. Charcoal on canvas, from more than four years in the Peruvian Amazon.

Diary of a Cunning Coward 2024

A book, and a series of twelve drawings and twelve bronze sculptures.

Historia de una lucha contra los demonios

Large-scale charcoal on canvas, shown during the Lima International Art Biennial.

Artifact to Inseminate at a Distance

Also called a *Chicha Cannon*.

I and the Other

Mural.

The Winner 2022

Bronze, edition 3/6. The ram, “a symbol that demarcates the birth of symbolic sacrifice, and simultaneously its disruption,” on a tie from Henry Flagler’s railroad, on the route from New York to Havana, partly destroyed by the 1935 Labor Day hurricane.

Harmony in Yellows 2023–2024

Cymatics: sound vibrations from Debussy and Wagner, played on cello, applied to the canvas while the paint is wet.

Two hundred thirty-three hours for...

Organic pigments, gunpowder and charcoal.

Las Tres Marías

Photographs of three mothers, aged 102, 33 and 13.

Television

2006–2015

Arte Mundo Latino

Director, scriptwriter and general producer. Cultural and investigative journalism.

2010–2013

Masters of the Latin American Art

2009–2010

What [Other] People Believe In

2006–2008

Secret Gourmet

2004–2006

Cocina de Autor

2004

Vamos a la Feria