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## Transcending The Chair

PAOLA MONDOLFI AND AURORA MOLINA

CURATED BY ADRIANA MENESES

We are pleased to announce “Transcending The Chair,” an exhibit featuring textile artists Paola Mondolfi and Aurora Molina, curated by Adriana Meneses. The exhibition will be on view at MIFA Miami International Fine Arts from March 7th to March 26th. The space will hold an opening reception on Thursday March 7 from 6-9 p.m.

The chair has been a constant in the work of numerous artists. In the case of Aurora Molina and Paola Mondolfi, it is the excuse and support of this exhibition. From her beginnings as an artist, Paola has used the chair as a canvas. In the case of Aurora Molina, the chair is the instrument of reflection and a game of memory.

The chair can be an example of power; of order, of memory. It places us in time and space. In the field of contemporary art, the mundane object often takes on a deep significance, serving as a container for personal memories and collective experiences. For the artists Paola Mondolfi and Aurora Molina, the chair emerges as a powerful symbol of nostalgia, identity and transformation in their respective bodies of work.

**About Paola Mondolfi:** She was born in Caracas, and graduated as a Graphic Designer at the Caracas Design Institute, also studied sculpture at the Federico Brand School. Her professional career includes packaging design, advertising and marketing, corporate image, and web development. In 2020, as a result of the pandemic, she began to investigate other areas, like furniture and fiber art, she created Paola Mondolfi Design Lab, where she works with recycled furniture, objects abandoned in time, which may have been damaged or mistreated due to their circumstances during the years of their life, and through the intervention they can be recovered, creating new stories. Founder of “Fundación del Alimenta La Solidaridad Miami”, “Sustento Textil project” and FAMA member since 2021.

**About Aurora Molina:** Aurora Molina was born in La Havana, Cuba, in 1984. She emigrated to the United States at the age of sixteen, where she opted to pursue an education in art. Molina received her Associates of Arts in Visual Arts from Miami Dade College, a Bachelors in Fine Arts specializing in Mixed Media from Florida International University and Master Degree in Contemporary Art at the Universidad Europea de Madrid completed in 2009. She currently resides in Miami, Florida, where she works as a full time artist, represented since 2011 by Bernice Steinbaum Gallery. Using the tools of embroidery, sculpture-making, drawing, photography, and video, she uses the potential of fiber art to communicate ideas about social and political issues. Her multifaceted platform provides a sustained and powerful critique of a society that “dismisses” the most vulnerable as they become invisible and hidden from everyday life. [ ] With a commitment to Advanced Fiber Art in Miami, Molina is a co-founder of FAMA, Fiber Artists-Miami Association an artist collaborative that builds community through textiles and weaves Miami together.

**About Adriana Meneses:** Adriana Meneses Imber is a cultural manager and visual arts curator with an illustrious career of 40+ years creating, developing and organizing various cultural events and supporting artistic endeavors. She graduated from Communication at UCAB (Caracas, Venezuela) and has a post-graduate degree in Arts Administration from Drexel University, (Philadelphia, USA). As a Director of Culture of the Government of the Federal District, Venezuela, she developed an extensive program of exhibitions, musical events and training workshops, among other activities. Displaying a robust work ethic, technical expertise, effective team collaboration and leadership, she became Director-founder of the Museum Jacobo Borges in 1995. During her eleven-year tenure in this position, she developed a series of exhibitions and activities that linked artistic and social issues. From 2006 to 2007, she directed the Museum Carlos Cruz Diez and later became the coordinator for Special Projects for IARTES, Caracas. In August 2015, Adriana relocated to the United States, where she has been organizing exhibitions as part of the I AM MONUMENTS Institutional Assets and Monuments team. As an independent curator, Adriana has worked in numerous projects and exhibitions both in the United States and internationally, overseeing comprehensive tasks including research, piece selection, database management and event coordination.

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