

Silvia Cohen, Carmen Miranda, 36 x 36 inches, Acrylic on canvas, 2024



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WHAT IF...IF ONLY: A New Solo Exhibition by Silvia Cohen

Curated by Adriana Meneses Imber
Miami International Fine Arts (MIFA) | April 5 - 26, 2025

Miami, FL – On Saturday, April 5, 2025, Venezuelan artist Silvia Cohen will present her second solo exhibition in Florida, WHAT IF...IF ONLY, at Miami International Fine Arts (MIFA). Curated by Adriana Meneses Imber, this powerful collection delves into themes of identity, privilege, and aspiration through the lens of early 20th-century incarcerated women.

Cohen, who studied **Fine Arts at the University of Haifa, Israel**, has explored a wide range of artistic expressions throughout her career. Her work has been showcased in **Venezuela, Israel, Switzerland, Romania, and the United States**, reflecting a deep engagement with storytelling through painting. Since relocating to **Miami in 2018**, Cohen has continued her artistic journey, drawing inspiration from history, culture, and personal narratives.

Her previous solo exhibition, LA ALEGRÍA DE VIVIR (The Joy of Living), also curated by Adriana Meneses Imber, was held at the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU from November 2022 to February 2023. That collection explored the Jewish social life of 1960s and 1970s Caracas, depicting moments of joy, celebration, and cultural identity.

WHAT IF...IF ONLY: Exploring the Unattainable

In this new body of work, Cohen shifts her focus to **mugshots of incarcerated women from the early 20th century**, juxtaposing their portraits with luxury items of the time. These paintings invite viewers to reflect on **society's divisions**, **privilege**, **and human longing**, showing that—regardless of past decisions—these women still aspired to the same dreams as those who lived in privilege. Through her evocative compositions, Cohen emphasizes the **ironies of luxury and the invisible barriers** separating these women from a world they could not access.

This exhibition is a **poignant reflection on social structures**, challenging us to reconsider perceptions of identity, justice, and aspiration.

EXHIBITION DETAILS

• **Dates:** April 5 - 26, 2025

• Opening Reception: Saturday, April 5, 2025 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

• Location: Miami International Fine Arts (MIFA)

ABOUT MIFA

Miami International Fine Arts (MIFA) is a leading hub for artistic innovation, dedicated to fostering cultural exchange, supporting artists, and promoting meaningful artistic dialogue.

MEDIA CONTACT

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For more information about this exhibition and other MIFA events, please visit **www.mifamiami.com**.

EDITORIAL IMAGES available upon request.