



AMERICAN FRIENDS *of the* LUDWIG FOUNDATION OF CUBA

NEWSLETTER TOPICS

- About Us
- AFLFC's Cultural Travel Programs
- AFLFC in NYC
- 18th HFFNY
- A Havana Night Benefit Gala
- Exhibitions, Lectures & Performances
- Help Us Build Cultural Bridges
- The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba
- Professional Development

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carole Rosenberg, President
 Bennet Grutman, Chairman
 Jennifer Freeman, Secretary
 Rosa Tejada, Treasurer

Denise Bernardo	Madalena Sheehan
Michael Brophy	Annie Stanton
Anna C. Carbonell	Ann Marie Stock
Yulia Dulstina	Richard Velazquez
James Durkin	Helena Vidal
Erica Hartman-Horvitz	Lisa Villareal
Helmo Hernandez	William D. Zabel
Alina Montes	Barbara Zand
Dorothy Pentzke	

ABOUT US

The American Friends of the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba (AFLFC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization chartered in the State of New York, has been building cultural bridges between the U.S. and Cuba through exchange programs in the arts since 2000. As diplomatic relations between the two countries are shifting, the work of AFLFC is vital to ensuring a continued dialogue. Together with our partner the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba (LFC), a non-governmental institution in Havana, we continue to play a central role in fostering cultural interchange. In our year-round programs we offer opportunities for professional development while promoting educational and artistic exchange through exhibitions, lectures, concerts, performances and master classes that benefit artists, art professionals, students and local audiences. We inspire artists, assist researchers, disseminate art information, provide instruction on new technology and software, enrich audiences, and facilitate communication between the art communities.

DISCOVER CUBA'S CULTURAL RICHES AND HAVANA'S VIBRANT ARTS SCENE

AFLFC offers unique travel programs to Cuba that expose American travelers to the thriving Cuban arts community while generating meaningful personal connections. Given our relationship with the island's cultural organizations and individual artists- both established and emerging- we offer unparalleled access to the art and culture that makes Cuba so special. Intimate, fun, and informative, our trips include visits to world-class museums and galleries, private meetings with influential Cuban artists, and special access to many internationally renowned cultural festivals held in Cuba.

We also offer a variety of new travel programs designed to take advantage of this pivotal moment in Cuban history, and the current boom of artistic production and innovation sweeping the island. In addition to our group tours, we can arrange personal trips for 2-12 people throughout the year. Contact Carole Rosenberg at 212.628.3494, 212.687.2146, or info@AFLFC.org for more information.

UPCOMING TRIPS AND FESTIVALS

- Cuban Botanical & Private Gardens / Arts & Architecture: March 19-23 or 19-25, 2018
- The 26th International Ballet Festival of Havana: Oct 27 – Nov 5, 2018; A prestigious dance festival that brings together many of the top Cuban and foreign ballet dancers every two years.
- The 40th International Festival of New Latin American Cinema, Dec. 2018; This landmark celebration of Latin American cinema annually presents over 400 films from around the world
- The 13th Havana Biennial: Dates TBA, 2019; An immersive international arts festival that transforms the city of Havana into a veritable art exhibition.



Top: *Redoblantes and Maratón* by Cuban sculptor Gustavo del Valle on the terrace of the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba
 Left: President of the Cuban Film Archives Luciano Castillo leads a discussion with special guest James Ivory, who was honored at the 39th International Festival of New Latin American Cinema in Havana

AFLFC IN NYC

The celebration of Cuban art and culture in New York City is inherent to AFLFC's core mission of building cultural bridges between the U.S. and Cuba. Annually we create and support programs and exhibitions that introduce our local NY audiences to the dynamic world of Cuban artistic production. From film festivals to dance projects to museum and gallery installations, AFLFC works year-round to foster bi-national dialogues and artistic exchanges.

THE 18TH HAVANA FILM FESTIVAL NEW YORK

The Havana Film Festival New York (HFFNY) creates a platform for filmmakers from Cuba and Latin America to interact and engage with our diverse audience. Annually, AFLFC screens the latest award-winning films and time-honored classics from Cuba, Latin America, and U.S. Latinos.

In addition to the recent releases, our program included an homage to the father of Cuban feature-film animation Juan Padrón- who joined us to present screenings of his most seminal films and to open an exhibition of his artwork- and an In Memoriam segment dedicated to Eliseo Subiela, the great Argentine director who passed away December 2016. We also paid tribute to the importance of music in Cuban cinema, and were joined by two of Cuba's most famous musicians: Chucho Valdés, legend of Latin jazz and Telmary Díaz, queen of underground hip-hop.



2017 Havana Star Prize

Susan & Peter Kessler Award for Best Feature:

ÚLTIMOS DÍAS EN LA HABANA / LAST DAYS IN HAVANA
(Cuba-Spain) Dir. Fernando Pérez

Alina Montes & Steven Cusumano Award for Best Director:

José María Cabral for CARPINTEROS / WOODPECKERS
(Dominican Republic)

Best Screenplay:

Daniel Hendler & Alberto Rojas Apel for
EL CANDIDATO / THE CANDIDATE (Uruguay-Argentina) dir.
Daniel Hendler

Best Actor:

Jorge Martínez for
ÚLTIMOS DÍAS EN LA HABANA / LAST DAYS IN HAVANA
(Cuba-Spain) dir. Fernando Pérez

Best Actress:

Isabel Santos for
YA NO ES ANTES / NOT LIKE BEFORE (Cuba-Spain)
dir. Lester Hamlet

- Top left: *Esteban* director Jonal Cosculluela, producer Martiza Ceballos with Cuban composer and pianist Chucho Valdés who wrote the music for the film, at HFFNY's Opening Night.
- Top right: Juan Padrón at the New York Film Academy
- Bottom left: HFFNY staff, supporters, and volunteers being recognized on Closing Night



A HAVANA NIGHT BENEFIT GALA

On November 2, 2017 AFLFC returned to NYC's legendary Copacabana nightclub for its annual Havana Night Benefit Gala where we honored three individuals whose friendship has proven instrumental to the core mission of AFLFC: Yoan Capote and Susan & Peter Kessler. Capote was the first Cuban artist selected by the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba in 2002 for AFLFC's Professional Development Program, and as his fame has grown on an international level, he continues to support us. Philanthropists and art collectors Peter and Susan Kessler, have been longtime volunteers and supporters of AFLFC.



Former New York City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito highlights the importance of AFLFC's mission

EXHIBITIONS, LECTURES & PERFORMANCES



Yoan Capote: PALANGRE & ISLA at Jack Shainman Gallery

Yoan Capote's third solo exhibition with Jack Shainman Gallery in NYC featured his Isla and Palangre series, two related, ongoing bodies of work of seascapes that are fabricated of meticulously composed hand-wrought fishhooks.



Carlos Quintana: NEW WORKS at Magnan Metz

Cuban artist Carlos Quintana showed his most recent multi-media collection, New Works, in a solo exhibition at Chelsea-based art gallery Magnan Metz. His 2014 piece, *Nothing to Do*, was included in AFLFC's Live Auction at its 2017 Havana Night Benefit Gala.



Belkis Ayón: NKAME at El Museo Del Barrio

AFLFC collaborated with El Museo del Barrio for NKAME, the first U.S. touring exhibition of Belkis Ayon and organized a dinner hosted by Gala honorees Susan & Peter Kessler after the opening.

Carole & Alex Rosenberg participated in a panel on the exhibition entitled NKAME: Remembering the Cuban Printmaker Belkis Ayon at NYU's King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center; organized by Edward Sullivan, Deputy Director of the Institute of Fine Arts at NYU.



Board member Denise Bernardo organized a special evening with dinner and a performance at BAM's Harvey Theater for the premiere of *Dreaming of Lions* by Malpaso with music by Arturo O'Farrill. The Cuban contemporary dance group also performed on Central Park's Summerstage.



Celebrating the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra's 15th year, multi-Grammy winners Arturo O'Farrill and Chucho Valdés reinterpreted the works of their legendary fathers, Bebo Valdés and Chico O'Farrill at NYC's Symphony Space. AFLFC organized a special cocktail for the performers and organizers of the event.

HELP US BUILD CULTURAL BRIDGES

Thanks to your ongoing support, we continue to build cultural bridges between the U.S. and Cuba through projects that focus on artistic exchange and professional development, designed to foster dialogues and engage participants as individuals and communities.

We need your help to make all our invaluable projects a reality! Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution. With our low overhead and some grant support, you can be sure that 100% of your donation will be applied to our programming. Whether large or small we greatly appreciate your contribution. We thank you for your financial support, for participating in our events and trips, and for sharing our message with your family, friends, and colleagues.

Warmest regards,
Carole Rosenberg

OUR PARTNER: THE LUDWIG FOUNDATION OF CUBA

The Ludwig Foundation of Cuba (LFC) is a non-governmental, non-profit institution located in Havana, created with the mission of protecting and promoting Cuban artists in Cuba and internationally. LFC continues to evolve, redefining its principals, goals and work focus depending on the needs and challenges faced by Cubans in a rapidly changing world. Today, LFC puts a strong emphasis on examining the balance between the public and private sector and opening new roads and granting visibility to alternative forms of artistic expression that may be overlooked by more established institutions. From architecture to mobile app development and theatrical readings to graphic design the Foundation works to educate, nurture and advocate the work of Cuba's emerging artists.

The Ludwig Foundation also works with American universities to introduce their students to Cuban culture and history developing in-depth academic programs that include lectures, visits to artists' studios, dance lessons, theater rehearsals, and conversations with leading intellectuals. Among these universities is NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, which offers programs in documentary video production and photography.



Fundación Ludwig de Cuba



German Theatre Week is celebrated at LFC with a theatrical reading



Fresh Eyes Cuba – Exhibition at LFC by representatives from ArtCenter College of Design in California in collaboration with communication design students at ISDi (Instituto de Diseño)



Special event at LFC: There Is No Fourth Wall (Virtual Reality Project by Fifer Garbersi)



Students participating in the Tisch Semester in Havana for Documentary Video Production and Photography contemplate the work of their peers at LFC

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AFLFC's model of cooperative programming in the arts aims to foster the professional development of art communities in the United States and Cuba. These programs and projects have provided countless opportunities to artists, art professionals, and students interested in furthering their careers and expanding their educational horizons. Highlights from this year:

- We facilitated student internships at the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba and at AFLFC's office in New York City.
- The Windows Project partnered with Hunter College's Arnhold Graduate Dance Education Program, where Windows Project founder and president Pedro Ruiz is the artist-in-residence, to bring two graduate students to Camaguey, Cuba to teach master classes and perform with the Ballet Contemporaneo de Camaguey.
- We collaborated with the International Film Festival in Havana to bring distinguished celebrities from the U.S. filmworld to Cuba to participate in workshops, panel discussions and screenings at the festival and International Film School (EICTV).



Pedro Ruiz rehearses with the Ballet Contemporaneo de Camaguey