

## RUDOLF BUDJA THEGALLERY

1759 Bay Rd, Miami Beach, Florida

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### PRESS RELEASE

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# STILL LOOKING

**March 19 – May 2, 2026**

Rudolf Budja THEGALLERY, Miami Beach

Opening Reception: Thursday, March 19, 6–9 PM

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Rudolf Budja THEGALLERY is pleased to present *Still Looking*, an exhibition bringing together works by fifteen artists across painting, sculpture, photography, and works on paper. On view from March 19 through May 2, 2026, the exhibition is bound not by medium or movement but by a shared restlessness — the refusal to let the image, the surface, or the body settle into certainty.

To look is to remain in relation. It is an act of continuity — still here, still attending, still refusing the comfort of the resolved. *Still Looking* maps a constellation of tensions: figuration against abstraction, the intimate against the monumental, the handmade against the reproduced, innocence against ambition. The works in the exhibition are in constant dialogue — exchanging positions, reversing polarities, refusing resolution.

The human figure persists across the exhibition in many registers. Joel Shapiro distills it to precise geometric bronze; Thomas Houseago erupts it into mythic, confrontational scale. Celso Castro Daza — *born in Valledupar, Colombia, and trained at the Pratt Institute in New York* — enters the exhibition with an *Untitled Portrait* (1997), a large-scale work on paper whose gestural line carries an immediate psychological charge. The drawing neither fully resolves nor fully withholds its subject — it holds the figure at the threshold of legibility, suspended between control and instinct. This quality of deliberate incompleteness places Castro Daza in direct dialogue with Cindy Sherman's constructed self-image and the photographic intimacy of Nobuyoshi Araki: three artists for whom the body is never simply depicted, but always implicated.

A parallel conversation unfolds through the surface itself. Lucio Fontana's *Concetto Spaziale* (1968) — an etching, aquatint, and embossing with punched holes — literalizes the void behind the picture plane, making the act of destruction the act of creation. Sigmar Polke's 1998 acrylic and interference color on paper destabilizes the surface optically; Christopher Wool

accumulates and erases until what remains is the residue of a decision. Andy Warhol — present across multiple decades and registers, from the hand-drawn intimacy of *Holy Cats* (1954) to the cold declaration of the *Dollar Sign* (1982) and the final-year gravitas of *Lenin* (1987) — traces the full arc from innocence to spectacle, from the private mark to the commodified image.

Richard Prince's *Night Club Nurse* (2007) and Warhol's T-shirts and *Dollar Sign* anchor the exhibition's interrogation of capital and image. Purvis Young — Miami's own, whose painted figures emerged from Overtown with the urgency of community survival — enters this conversation as its most geographically grounded voice, a reminder that capital moves through places and people without asking. Damien Hirst, Marie Jo Lafontaine, Keith Tyson, and TOMAK extend the dialogue across desire, process, mythology, and the visual noise of urban experience.

*Still Looking* is not a survey. It is a revolution — bodies and surfaces and images in constant motion, exchanging positions, refusing resolution, remaining, like the best questions, permanently open.

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#### **PARTICIPATING ARTISTS**

Nobuyoshi Araki, Celso Castro Daza, Copy Paste, Damien Hirst, Thomas Houseago, Marie Jo Lafontaine, Sigmar Polke, Richard Prince, Joel Shapiro, Cindy Sherman, Keith Tyson, TOMAK, Andy Warhol, Christopher Wool, Purvis Young

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#### **ABOUT THE GALLERY**

Rudolf Budja THEGALLERY is located at 1759 Bay Rd, Miami Beach, Florida. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11am–6pm, and by appointment.

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#### **PRESS CONTACT**

##### **Rudolf Budja THEGALLERY**

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