



#1358 Funnel, 2013

Emil Lukas

1989 from the Sinai to Harlem

Dec 03, 2023 - April 27, 2024

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The Fundación Pablo Atchugary is pleased to present *1989 from the Sinai to Harlem*, by Pennsylvania based artist, Emil Lukas. Lukas' second exhibition with the foundation unveils a series of never before exhibited "Stacks" that embarks on a journey through the intricacies of Lukas' oeuvre, emphasizing the multifaceted nature of his creations and the profound narratives embedded within. The enigmatic stacked sculptures are structural fragments composed of dozens of individual works layered one on top of the other, evoking a sort of timeline into the artist's life. As the exhibition title suggests, the genesis of the stacked sculptures traces back to the late 80s, shaped by the artist's nomadic travels and apprenticeship with the notable Swiss artist, **Not Vital**, and continues to be investigated today, revealing an archeology of Lukas' artistic practice.

The artist shares insights into his formative apprenticeship, stating, "The first travel work experience happened in 1986 with a trip to Italy and Switzerland to apprentice with

the artist Not Vital. Not's nomadic live practice was and will always be an inspiration to my work. We worked together without compromise or practicality, which was a struggle for me, but highly influential. I feel that our travels in the late 80's and early 90's shaped the development of stacked sculptures."

The stacked sculptures stand at a human scale, and are meant to be flipped through or "activated" like the pages of a book, each "page" linked together conceptually, aesthetically, and structurally, creating a continuum where anything can happen. Each layer encapsulates a fluid narrative,

EXHIBITION DATE:
Dec 03, 2023 - April 27, 2024

OPENING RECEPTION:
Sunday, December 03
11am to 6pm

PLACE:
Fundacion Pablo
Atchugary
5520 NE 4th Avenue,
Miami, FL 33137



, resembling a timeline in constant flux, oscillating between the past and the future. Wide ranging materials, including paper, canvas, wood, plaster, thread, and organic material exist cohesively, and are layered and stratified, employing a constant state of "connection and regeneration," as described by the artist. In a recent stacked work, *#1552 Lead Core* (2017), the viewer can detect the impressive byproducts of Lukas' studio practice, from the thread painting the artist is most known for, to the cast-plaster work composed to resemble a honeycomb. Though vastly different, the materials found in a single structure do not exist independently, but rather depend on one another to achieve varying degrees of composition, dimensionality and optical effects. In Lukas' earlier stacked creation, *#0241 Fragility* (1991), the nature of what lies within each unique layer is far more veiled, concealing a wealth of details that remains hidden, waiting to be activated. *#0241 Fragility* relies on the viewer's curiosity and exploration, inviting them to experience the piece both visually and physically, as it is being activated.

1989 from the Sinai to Harlem presents a body of intricate works that engage the viewer in an intimate and contemplative way. As the exhibition becomes activated, the artist invites us to journey through his artistic evolution, revealing layers of boundless possibilities. Lukas champions these unconventional modes of viewing his work, prompting viewers to consider lived experiences through a material investigation wherein the boundaries between past, present and future are blurred.

*For more information, high resolution images, and to arrange an interview with Emil Lukas or Piero Atchugarry, please contact Manuela Micucci—
admin@pieroatchugarry.com or at (305) 639-8247.*

Emil Lukas (born 1964, Pennsylvania) has exhibited throughout the United States and abroad. Solo museum shows include "Emil Lukas: Connection to the Curious" at The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield, CT (2005); "Emil Lukas" at The Weatherspoon Museum, Greensboro, NC (2005); "Things with Wings," The Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA (2005); and "Moderate Climate and the Bitter Bison" at the Hunterdon Museum, Hunterdon, NJ (2008). In 2016, a solo exhibition of his work was held at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA. His work is in important private and public collections, including the Panza Collection, Italy; the Dakis Joannou Collection, Greece; Margulies Collection, Miami; Allentown Art Museum, PA; the Anderson Collection at Stanford University; Baltimore Museum of Art; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; San José Museum of Art; UBS Art Collection.

@emillukas

Fundación Pablo Atchugarry

In December 2018, the Fundación Pablo Atchugarry opened its second location, in a space adjacent to the Piero Atchugarry Gallery, in the neighborhood of Little Haiti, in Miami, FL, located near Miami's Design District.

With the aim to expand the foundation to North America and continue to contribute to the development of visual art, art history knowledge, and passion for the arts.

The exhibition program combines both contemporary and modern art, to bring a refreshing look at art history and to foster an understanding of how art movements can influence each other through time and space.

Artist talks and events allow for intimate encounters with members of the local and international art scene.

Visit the Fundación Pablo Atchugarry at fundacionpabloatchugarrymiami.com

Fundación Pablo Atchugarry is located at 5520 NE 4th Avenue, Miami FL 33137.