

Lukaza Branfman-Verissimo
UNTITLED. Miami 2022
Special Project

We are excited to present, 'Viewfinder' with Lukaza Branfman-Verissimo, an interactive project that will span the fairgrounds and the surrounding public context. The project is inspired by, and dedicated to, artist, educator, and activist Corita Kent, and is an invitation to practice a different way of seeing our world. In conjunction with their publication *Slow Looking: These Views Are Our Tools*, published by Childish Books, Branfman-Verissimo will provide cut a 'views' from a Risograph print they created for the project. Participants are invited to explore the fair through this lens, and bring their viewfinders outside to discover new ways of slow looking and deep investigation of the surrounding area. On the flip side of the viewfinder is a map of landmarks and spaces in Miami that center Black, Queer, Diasporic History. The map is provided as an educational tool and guide for exploration. Self-taken photos of views can be shared online and gathered via the hashtag #slowlookingmiami2022 providing a multi/collective view of this current and historic time and place, offering new perspectives to those who are in attendance in Miami, as well as to those who are virtually visiting from afar. A special and limited edition screenprint titled 'Slow Look' will be on view and available for purchase in conjunction with this project.

Lukaza Branfman-Verissimo (they/them/she/her) is an artist, activist, educator, storyteller, and curator. They received their BFA at California College of the Arts in Oakland, CA, and their MFA at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. Branfman-Verissimo's work is informed by their commitment to craft and community, engagement with society, and interests in storytelling and cultural geography. Their work has been included in exhibitions, installations, and performances at Deli Gallery (Long Island City, NY), EFA Project Space (New York City, NY), Leslie Lohman Museum (New York City, NY), STNDRD (Steuben, WI), San Francisco State University Gallery, Signal Center for Contemporary Art (Malmo, Sweden), Southern Exposure (San Francisco, CA), Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (San Francisco, CA), Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (Berkeley, CA), Pt.2 Gallery (Oakland, CA), and SEPTEMBER (Hudson, NY), among others. Lukaza was the Lead Curator and Founder at Nook Gallery, 2015-2020, collaborating with over 80+ artists, writers, performers, and musicians, in a gallery located in their home kitchen. They have worked with Plunge, Printed Matter Inc., Night Diver Press, Endless Editions, Press Press and UNTITLED to produce limited edition prints and artist books. Lukaza has been interviewed and covered by publications including *Architectural Review*, *Art Journal*, *Frieze*, *L'Internationale*, *Nat. Brut*, and *Variable West*. Branfman-Verissimo lives and works between Ohlone Land (Oakland, CA) and Powhatan Land (Richmond, VA).

SEPTEMBER