

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Psycho-tropics: Belonging Elsewhere***

On view March 15 - April 27, 2024

**Opening Reception: Friday, March 15, 6-8 PM**

**Curated by** Sofía Shaula Reeser del Rio

**Artists:** Natalia Almonte, Yazmany Arboleda, Edward Cabral, Ojos Caribe, Jill Cohen-Nuñez, Patricia Encarnación, Nicole Mouriño, Christopher Paz-Rivera, Estefania Velez Rodriguez.



Image: Patricia Encarnación, *Tropical Limerence III: Martinique*, 2023, Video, 02:30 minutes. This film will be on view at the gallery March 15 - April 10.

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*Psycho-tropics: Belonging Elsewhere* is a collective inquiry into transformation and resilience. The featured artists in this show engage in explorations of cultural liminality and question the relationship between individuals and their environment. While considering the melding of city and landscape, the show unfolds as an inquiry of the diasporic psyche, delving into societal norms, cultural dynamics, environmental factors, historical legacies, and diverse migrant narratives. Each artist spotlights liminal spaces—honoring rituals, migration, community, and belonging, and reflects on the interconnectedness of self and community. As a reminder of our shared humanity, the exhibition invites viewers to identify refuge, construct alternative archives, and highlight a collective disbelief of progress.

Delving into the influences of de-colonial practices and nature, the artists reconstruct and challenge prevailing notions of American-ness. By carving out spaces of refuge and constructing alternative realities to a contemporary anxious-driven society, the exhibition becomes a celebration of collective hope in the face of false progress. The exhibition then becomes a poignant reminder of our humanity and the power of personal histories in decentralizing monolithic narratives. A communal table welcomes engagement and fosters contribution to a zine-like catalog that aims to cultivate narratives and embrace alternative perspectives.

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**Public Programs**

**All events and programs are free and open to the public** at EFA Project Space, 323 West 39th Street, 2nd floor, NYC.



### **Opening Reception**

**Friday, March 15, 6-8 PM**

Join us for a gathering with the artists and curator to celebrate the opening of this show.

RSVP Recommended but not required.

### **Hand-Building with Air Dry Clay Workshop with Jill Cohen Nuñez**

**Saturday, March 23, 2-4 PM**

Learn the basics of how to coil-build a pot. Ages 12+

RSVP Recommended but not required.

### **DibujArte/Draw Art**

**Saturday, March 30, 12-2 PM**

Join artist **Nicole Mouriño** for a family-friendly drawing workshop using the artworks in the exhibition as inspiration. Ages 5+ with their caregivers, participants learn to work with charcoal on newsprint and canvas while interpreting sculptural works by **Edward Cabral**, **Jill Cohen Nuñez**, and **Patricia Encarnacion**. Attendees can choose to participate or contribute to the exhibition's living catalog.

Limited materials provided and BYO supplies recommended.

RSVP Recommended but not required.

### **JURUTUNGO: Concrete Poetry Workshop led by Natalia Almonte**

**Saturday, April 6, 3-5:30 PM**

This workshop will explore the concept of Concrete Poetry, historically defined as an arrangement of linguistic elements in which the typographical effect is more important in conveying meaning than verbal significance. There are no rules, just interpretations. The intention is to free ourselves of what we should do, of what is expected, of what the finished product could be, and let ourselves embrace the unknown in order to discover something about ourselves that we did not know yesterday. Please bring your materials of choice, suggestions: writing and drawing utensils, paper or other surfaces, iPad/Tablet.

RSVP Recommended but not required.

### **Catalog Launch with Ojos Caribe Screening & Cake by Edward Cabral**

**Thursday, April 11, 6-8 PM**

Join us for the catalog launch, screening with **Ojos Caribe**, and a special cake decorated by **Edward Cabral**.

RSVP Recommended but not required.

### **Materials Workshop with Estefania Velez Rodriguez**

**Saturday, April 13, 12:30-2 PM**

This workshop facilitated by **Estefania Velez Rodriguez** explores different ways of using organic materials to make pigments.

RSVP Recommended but not required.



**Death Cafe Ceremony with Jill Cohen-Núñez hosted by Anastasia Corrine and Nancy Huang**  
**Saturday, April 13, 5-8 PM**

Join us for an afternoon of Ceremony held by the Death Cafe with **Jill Cohen-Núñez**, Hosted by **Anastasia Corrine** and **Nancy Huang**.

Where and how do we allow ourselves to grieve and mourn? Expressing grief is a survival mechanism; the way we mourn reflects the way we live. The Death Cafe, a BIPOC-centered event, is an opportunity for people to come together and share thoughts, fears, and dreams about mortality, and plan for the future. Death Cafe is an offering for a present and future committed to love and dignity for the living, the ill, and the dead. We aim to create intergenerational spaces dedicated to the safety and celebration of people of all abilities. We will gather to discuss death and dying in a nonjudgmental space, build a collective altar, and enjoy light refreshments.

RSVP Recommended but not required.

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**FOR PRESS INQUIRIES**

**Naomi Lev**, Director and Chief Curator, EFA Project Space

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**EFA Project Space**, launched in September 2008 as a program of The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, is a collaborative, cross-disciplinary arts venue founded on the belief that art is directly connected to the individuals who produce it and the communities that arise because of it. By providing an arena for exploring these connections, we empower artists, curators, and other participants to forge new partnerships and encourage the expansion of ideas. The program is based on Open Calls as well as invitational exhibitions and projects. It is a home for emerging, mid-career, as well as established curators and artists. We focus our attention on community engagement and public programming. [www.projectspace-efanyc.org](http://www.projectspace-efanyc.org) **The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts (EFA)** is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Through its three core programs, EFA Studios, EFA Project Space, and EFA Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, EFA is dedicated to providing artists across all disciplines with space, tools and a cooperative forum for the development of individual practice. EFA is a catalyst for cultural growth, stimulating new interactions between artists, creative communities, and the public. [www.efanyc.org](http://www.efanyc.org) EFA Project Space is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and additional funding from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.