



Fuller Craft Museum & The Society of Arts & Crafts

Havana, Cuba

People to People Art Tour

Saturday to Saturday

April 14-21

Day 1 Saturday April 14

Charter flight from **Fort Lauderdale** to Havana. Charter Company is Airline Brokers Inc.

Departs at 12:30 p.m.; arrives Havana at 1:30 p.m. Check in is 3 hours prior to departure

Upon arriving in Havana, a representative will welcome the group and accompany us to the **Hotel Parque Central**. The only true five star hotel in Cuba, this magnificent property sits in the center of the historic district.

Orientation tour of the fascinating area surrounding the hotel

Welcome dinner at Dinner at **Meson de la Flota** – which offers Spanish style tapas accompanied by a rousing Flamenco performance.

(D)

Day 2 Sunday April 15

Complimentary breakfast is served at the restaurant in the lobby level from 7am to 10am.

9:00 am

Orientation lecture by history professor Ricardo Lopez (one hour) on mezzanine level in the conference room.

After our lecture, Dr. Lopez will lead us on a walking tour of Havana Vieja that will combine history and architecture.

Thanks in part to history and ideology, Cuba -- and especially Havana -- is a treasure trove of architectural styles spanning six centuries. With buildings dating from the 16th through the 19th centuries, Havana is perhaps the most authentic colonial city in the Americas. Since 1982, when the city became a UNESCO World Heritage site, the government has embarked on an ambitious preservation and restoration program concentrated in the Old City. However, a severe lack of funding and materials has hampered efforts. Therefore, the decay and neglect of the past 40 years coupled with the destructive tropical weather continues to claim buildings every year.

Lunch at **Café Taberna** – traditional Cuban fare – house band plays Buena Vista Social Club favorites

Callejon de Hamel a neighborhood in Cayo Hueso, Central Havana, with a strong following of Santería. The walls and homes display colorful murals depicting aspects of Santería. The Callejón de Hamel is a public temple, open to everybody, which celebrates the presence of African culture in Cuba. The stated goal is to embrace all Caribbean and American people of African heritage, while celebrating the equality and oneness of all members of the human race. We will meet with community organizer and artist Salvador Gonzales and several fellow members to learn more about the neighborhood.

Artist Visits TBD

Dinner **On your own**

(B,L,D)

Day 3 **Monday April 16**

9:30 am **Architecture Tour of Western Havana**

Guided by Cuban Architect and preservationist **Isabel Rigol**.

For those of you who like modernist architecture, Havana offers a rich tapestry of buildings designed by the greatest architects of the time.

Isabel routinely is granted permission by the owners to enter beautiful homes and apartments.

Lunch Dine on traditional Cuban favorites at **La Barraca** at the **Hotel Nacional de Cuba**

Visit the **Iglesia de la Merced –(Church of Mercy)**

Dating back to 1637, the “Monks of Mercy” began construction on a church that would require over 100 years of effort. This magnificently ornate cathedral, cloaked in a 300 year old patina, serves as potent reminder of the immense influence the church once held in Cuba. The interior is breathtaking. We will be received by Fr. Gilbert Walker, originally from Chicago, who will talk about the various community activities and charities that the church organizes. Father Walker will receive us in the community center and introduce us to some of the residents who are involved in the outreach programs.

Visit the Arts and Crafts Market – handmade goods from around the island arrive at the indoor craft emporium.

Dinner Dinner on your own – a list of recommendations will be provided

(B, L,)

Day 4 **Tuesday April 17**

Attend a dance rehearsal at the **Lizt Alfonso Dance Academy** in Havana Vieja. A wonderful photo opportunity and an excellent chance to meet and speak with the many young people who are enrolled in the academy.

Visit the **Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA)** with focus on ceramics department
This is the premier school in Cuba for students studying music, visual arts, and performing arts. One of the few major architectural projects completed in Cuba in the early 1960s, the eye-popping buildings will certainly surprise anyone lucky enough to gain permission to enter. We will be received by English speaking students who will divide us into small groups to better enjoy a personalized tour of the school and the student studio space.

Lunch

Lunch at the whimsical home of artist **Jose Fuster**, who has made a major contribution to rebuilding and decorating the fishing town of Jaimanitas, in the outskirts of Havana, where he lives. Jaimanitas is now a unique work of public art where Fuster has decorated over 80 houses with colorful ornate murals and domes. We have asked Jose to invite some of his neighbors over to join us for lunch.

The Miramar District – our return drive will bring us through the beautiful Miramar district. This is the prettiest neighborhood in Havana, filled with attractions.

Visit to the **Christopher Colon Cemetery**.

This elaborate massive necropolis covers nearly 8% of the City of Havana, and contains and endless sea of poignant memorials, architectural jewels and human interest stories.

Artist visit : **Yoan Capote**

Yoan Capote received the UNESCO prize during the 7th Havana Biennial with the artists' collective DUPP. He graduated from ISA in 1995. His work, known to be "solid", "irreverent", "provocative", and "non-conformist" deals principally with interactions between individuals and objects, often merging human organs with inanimate objects, rearranging the human body and reinventing the purpose of everyday life.

Dinner - On your own

(B,L,D)

Day 5

Wednesday April 18

Our morning is dedicated to visiting art studios

Nelson Dominquez

Terra Cotta 4 Studio of Angel Noniella and Amelia Carballo

Artist visit: **Esterio Segura**

Esterio Segura graduated from the Instituto Superior de Arte in Havana. Working in painting, sculpture and installation, Segura makes use of humorous imagery to address socially and politically charged themes from Cuban history. He has been exhibited extensively in Cuba, US, Germany, Spain, England, Argentina, Brazil and elsewhere in the world.

Artist visit: **The Merger**

A collaborative venture created under the name of "The Merger" consisting of artists **Mario Miguel Gonzalez** (Mayito), **Niels Moleiro Luis**, and **Alain Pino**.

The Merger recreates ubiquitous and mundane objects on a grand scale, presenting palatable socio-political metaphors to their viewers

Lunch

TBD (based on locale)

Visit to the **Patronato**

We will be received by lifelong resident of Havana and active leader within the Jewish community, Adela Dworkin, who talk to us about the history of Jews in Cuba and what it has been like for the Jewish community since the revolution.

The Patronato was once Havana's upscale shul, built by affluent Cuban Jews in the early 1950s. Today the synagogue is affiliated with the Conservative movement in the USA. It currently serves as the focal point for most Jewish activities in Havana. We will meet with members of the congregation in the conference room and have a discussion on Judaism in Cuba. We will then retire to the dining hall for coffee and a discussion on religion in Cuba.

Dinner On your own – recommendations and reservation assistance will be provided.

(B,L)

Day 6 Thursday April 19

10:00 am Guest Lecture – **Prof. Carlos Alzugaray** – Former Cuban Ambassador to the European Union and former Director of the Institute of Foreign Relations. Professor Alzugaray will be accompanied by several English speaking students from Institute of Foreign Relations.

Professor Alzugaray will give a fascinating lecture on the history of Cuban-American relations from the Monroe Doctrine to the Cuban revolution of 1959. They will describe the facts surrounding Spanish colonialism and the first war of independence, the Spanish American War, sinking of the battleship Maine, the Platt Amendment of 1898 and the period of political upheaval leading to the revolution. Following the one-hour lecture, we will have a question and answer session with the students.

Visit the **Museum of Cuban Art** led by **curator Nelson Herrera**. The museum is dedicated exclusively to Cuban Art, and our tour will take a chronological path from the earliest days of colonialism to the latest generation of Cuban artists.

Lunch **Dona Eutimia in Havana Vieja**

Museum of Decorative Arts , we will be received by Alejandro Alonso, the director of the contemporary ceramics collection.

Wilfredo Lam Center

The Wilfredo Lam Center of Contemporary Art is a cultural institution dedicated to the study, research and promotion of contemporary visual arts from developing countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Caribbean. An extensive and valuable collection of contemporary visual artworks allows the Center to exhibit regularly in Cuba and abroad. We will have a chance to interact with local artists on a one to one basis and get their views on life and art.

Dinner at **Atelier** – (home restaurant) Offering guests both incredible food and ambiance

10:30 pm **Entertainment** – we will attend a music and dance performance at the Copa room in Riviera Hotel. This classic nightclub has changed little during its heyday in the 50s when Meyer Lansky “ran the joint”

(B,L,D)

Day 7 Friday April 20

9:30 am Visit the **Angela Landa Elementary School** in Plaza Vieja. You will be received by the director of the school, Sra. Sonia Garcia Marcel who will describe the education system in Cuba and give us a chance to interact with some of the children who are learning English. Donations of school supplies are welcome.

Visit the **Fototeca de Cuba**, National Photographic archive, where the director, **Nelson Ramirez** will welcome the group. Established in 1986, the *Fototeca de Cuba* contains the widest and most valuable archive of Cuban photos. Its permanent exhibition displays the work of Cuba's photographic heroes such as Raúl Corrales, Alberto Korda, Osvaldo Salas, Ernesto Fernández and Mario García Joya.

Lunch TBD

United States Interests Section or **USINT Havana** represents U.S. interests in Cuba. It is staffed by United States foreign-service personnel employed by the U.S. Department of State. USINT Havana and its counterpart for Cuban interests in Washington, D.C. are formally sections of the respective Embassies of Switzerland. They operate independently of the Swiss in virtually all but protocol respects. Cuba and the U.S. do not have formal diplomatic relations, however, their respective Interests Sections function as de facto embassies. We will receive a 30-minute lecture followed by a question and answer session.

6:00 pm **Farewell Dinner** at **El Gijones**. This elegant venue was previously the "American Club" and still possesses the clubby dark wood atmosphere that made it a popular hangout in the 50s. Head chef Lucio creates the most inventive dishes in Havana.

Cultural Event - depending on the cultural calendar, we will secure tickets to a scheduled performance of dance or music at a venue

Day 8 Saturday April 21 - Departure Day

12 noon Hotel check out. Airport transfer.

Flight departs Havana at 2:30 pm and arrives in Fort Lauderdale at 3:30 PM am

***Please Note: This is a "Working" Itinerary. There may be some changes, additions & / or subtractions to the Final Itinerary. All venues and artist's studios are subject to final confirmations. Be assured that any changes made will be done to enhance the total program, and to promote a smooth operation of the tour.**



Fuller Craft Museum and The Society of Arts & Crafts

Havana, Cuba – People to People Art Tour

April 14-21, 2012



Fuller Craft Museum and The Society of Arts & Crafts invite you to visit Cuba legally!

We will be traveling under the auspices of **Cuba Cultural Travel**, an organization that has specialized in travel to Cuba since 1998. Recently, the Obama administration passed an executive order making it easier for Americans to visit Cuba. The federal government has issued licenses to a select number of tour companies to operate what are known as “People to People” trips, and Cuba Cultural Travel is one of them.

Our journey will take us to Havana, the capital of the country and its commercial and cultural center since colonial times. You will experience the wonderful rustic charm of a city that has remained largely unchanged for over 50 years. You will meet the Cuban people and learn about daily life in this amazing, complex city and in nearby towns where we will travel to see special cultural treasures. But Havana is the centerpiece of the trip, the center for art, music, dance, and film, and the most beautiful city in the Caribbean regardless of the fading paint and cracking stonework.

Cuba has a rich and varied cultural heritage. Since the revolution, there has been an aggressive program of cultural reforms that has promoted artistic talent on the island. The result is a highly respected collection of art, music, and dance institutions and academies that have gained international acclaim. Even in the face of economic difficulties, Cuba continues to place a high value on artistic creativity and maintains its cultural integrity.

During our stay, we will be hosted by a variety of local scholars and artists who will offer in-depth commentary on art, history, architecture and religion. We will meet many leading artists in their studios, attend private dance and music performances and enjoy the company of students, professors, and historians. Throughout our tour we will enjoy the type of intimate personal exchanges that build lifelong relationships.

This trip will not only bring us together with the people of Cuba, but will enable us to develop friendships and a new understanding of the rich and varied cultural fabric of this unique island nation. A true people to people exchange!

Itinerary Highlights:

- *Orientation Lecture/Walking tour of Havana Viejo by Professor **Ricardo Lopez***
- *Architectural tour with Cuba architect and preservationist **Isabel Rigol***
- *Meeting with **Salvado Gonzales** to view the colorful murals of Callejon de Hamel*
- ***Wilfredo Lam Center** – Institution dedicated to contemporary art*
- *Guided tour of the **Decorative Arts Museum** – Contemporary Ceramics Collection with Director **Alejandro Alonso***
- *Lunch at the whimsical home of **Jose Fuster** in Jaimanitas where over 80 houses are painted at public art*
- *Dance Rehearsal of the **Lizt Alfonso Dance Academy***
- ***Museum of Cuban Art** tour led by curator **Nelson Herrera***
- ***Instituto Superior de Arte** – school of visual & performing arts*
- ***Fototeca de Cuba** with **Nelson Ramirez** and work of Nationally recognized photographers*
- *Visit to the **Christopher Colon Cemetery***
- *Visits to studios of: **Yoan Capote, Nelson Dominguez, “TerraCotta4” -Angel Noniella & Amelia Carballo, Esterio Segura, “The Merger”- Mario Miguel Gonzalez, Niels Moleiro Luis & Alain Pino** and more...subject to final confirmation*
- *Guest Lecture by Professor **Carlos Alzugaray** – Former Ambassador to the European Union/former Director of Institute of Foreign Relations*
- *A look at **Patronato**, with a talk about the history of Havana’s Jewish Community*

*This fully escorted, custom-designed art tour has been produced expressly for **Fuller Craft Museum & The Society of Crafts**. All highlights listed above are subject to final confirmation. There may be some additions &/or subtractions to the final itinerary. Accommodations have been reserved at the 5-star **Hotel Parque Central**, Havana.*

Price of Tour:

\$ 4325.00 Per Person Double Occupancy

Note: The use of **cash or **check** for payment brings the price to **\$4200.00** Per Person Double Occupancy*

Plus a total **\$ 500.00 donation per person** to the sponsoring 501(c) 3 organizations

Single Supplement: **\$ 450.00**

A **Deposit** of **\$1500.00** per person is required to hold space on this trip.

This deposit is fully refundable up to January 7th, 2012. Final Payments will be due by February 7th.

Travel Insurance is available and highly recommended at the time of deposit.

Space is Limited!

For a detailed description of items included and not included, please refer to the *Tours Cost & Conditions*.

For more trip information and Reservation/Deposit please contact:

Susan Weiner (800) 945-4461 Ext. # 8109 E-mail: suew@protrav.com

We will ask for a deposit to hold your reservations as soon as possible, as this tour is **limited** in numbers of spaces to travel. Deposits are now being accepted and should to be received no later than **January 7, 2012** at:

Fuller Craft Museum 455 Oak Street Brockton, MA 02301-1340 – Attention: Noelle Foye

Following receipt of your reservation form and deposit, further information regarding travel arrangements and a detailed itinerary will be provided to each traveler.

Help in booking Pre and Post trip accommodations/flights is available.

For general information and frequently asked questions on travel to Cuba, please go to www.cubaculturaltravel.com.

