

Enio Arroyo Gomez



Enio is a Costa Rican artist born in 1982. Enio’s creative process is multifaceted and unconstrained by conventional rules. Trained as a sculptor, he now works primarily with oil, acrylic, and charcoal on canvas and paper. He often incorporates unconventional materials—stitching them onto the surface and, at times, cutting canvases in two and sewing them back together before he begins to paint.

Almost all of Enio’s paintings begin with a vast archive of automatic drawings and sketches. He has drawn every day for the past fifteen years. His approach might be described as “investigative painting”: a method shaped by layering, sustained studies of color across cultures, and an openness to change. Works in progress remain visible in the studio, allowing for extended observation, ongoing revisions, and the freedom to set a piece aside—sometimes for years—before returning to it. The initial sketch undergoes continual transformation, informed by research, conceptual development, and philosophical reflection. These shifts are not aimed at realism or naturalism, but at a kind of play—an unfolding in which “it is not known where it will end.” For Enio, play is fundamental to the practice.

He believes our perceptions of the world are shaped by the circumstances of our birth—specifically, the time and place we enter—creating a continuous range of possible perspectives within the collective. These views are then filtered through personal fears, joys, and fantasies, producing unique distortions, angles, and “colors” of experience. This awareness fuels Enio’s interest in the collective subconscious as a pathway to a deeper understanding of ourselves as individuals. By giving form to imaginary figures without the limits of academic convention or cultural perfectionism, he seeks to reconnect with an emotionally direct mode of creativity—one that retains something of childhood perception.

Enio’s work is informed by readings of authors such as Samuel Beckett, Gabriel García Márquez, W.G. Sebald, Gilles Lipovetsky, Walter Benjamin, Giorgio Agamben, Christopher Bollas, and Michel Foucault, to name a few.

His top artistic influences include Francisco Goya, Amedeo Modigliani, Francis Bacon, Emil Nolde, Ludwig Kirchner, Otto Dix, James Ensor, Pablo Picasso, Remedios Varo, and Leonora Carrington.

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Education

- 2009 to 2013 - Scenography and Sculpture at The National University Of La Plata in Argentina.
- 2008 - Theatre residency at HKU University of the Arts Utrecht in the Netherlands.
- 2006 to 2008 - Acting at the National Theatre Academy in Costa Rica.
- 2000 to 2005 - Pedagogy at the Universidad Internacional De las America in Costa Rica.

Other Experience

- Extensive background in education, particularly in the fields of arts, play, and creative expression for children and adolescents. Has worked with organizations like TED and UNESCO and is specialized in areas such as play therapy, ludo-pedagogy, and stop-motion animation workshops.

Artistic Highlights

- 2025 – Solo exhibition at the Spring Break Art Show curated by Viljon Caka. Featured in Hyperallergic review of the art fair as the “Next big thing”.
- 2024 – Solo exhibition in Tribeca NYC, produced and curated by Viljon Caka. Featured in the Artseen section of The Brooklyn Rail July/August 2024 issue.
- 2016 – Solo exhibition at the National Gallery of Costa Rica and inclusion into their permanent collection.

Exhibition Highlights

- 2025 – Group exhibition / The End / Spielzeug Gallery / New York, NY / Evan Karas.
- 2025 – Group exhibition / RegularNormal Gallery / Arrival Art Fair / North Adams, MA / Danny Baez.
- 2025 – Solo exhibition / The burden which we carry / Spring Break Art Show / Hudson Square NYC / Viljon Caka.
- 2024 – Solo exhibition / From Argentina and Costa Rica to the Streets of Tribeca / On the Fringe Gallery / Tribeca NYC / Viljon Caka.
- 2022 – Group exhibition / Bienal de Color / Country Club Palace / Costa Rica.
- 2021 – Group exhibition / Seguimos de Orgullo / Galeria Budich / Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2020 – Group exhibition / ARDE GEA / Galeria Budich / Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2019 – Group exhibition / Territorios Infinitos / Galeria Budich / Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2018 – Group exhibition / Gallery Tour / Gallery DAYS / Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2017 – Solo exhibition / BESTIARIO 2017 / Indigo Arte / La Plata, Argentina.
- 2016 – Solo exhibition / FABRE / Cortes Joyeria Contemporanea, La Plata, Argentina.
- 2016 – Solo exhibition / BROTOS / National Gallery San Jose / Costa Rica.
- 2014 – Group exhibition / PSQUIS / Hospital Neuropsiquiatrico Alejandro Korn / La Plata, Argentina.
- 2013 – Group exhibition / ESCULTURA / Centro Cultural Azul Un Ala / La Plata, Argentina.
- 2012 – Solo exhibition / JAJOTOPA / Centro Cultural Feminista / Asuncion, Paraguay.
- 2011 – Solo exhibition / AFICHES / Galeria PisoUNO / La Plata, Argentina.
- 2009 – Group exhibition / Lenguajes visuals / Universidad Nacional de la Plata / La Plata, Argentina.
- 2008 – Solo exhibition / Colores del Alma / Club Mall San Pedro / Costa Rica.
- 2008 – Solo exhibition / Lousious / Parnassos Cultuurcentrum / Utrecht, Netherlands.