Celebrating Havana’s 13th Biennial
April 10 – 16, 2019

Led by Lester Tomé, Associate Professor
Smith College

Join us in Cuba to experience Havana as it transforms into one of the largest galleries in the world during the 13th Art Biennial celebrating Construction of the Possible.

Luminaries of the art world will be there and now you have the opportunity to experience it all with Smith Travel.
Itinerary

April 10, Wednesday: HAVANA

Independent early morning flights to Havana.

Upon arrival, visit the historic Nacional Hotel’s Hall of Fame before enjoying a traditional Cuban lunch served in the beautiful gardens of the hotel whose remaining splendor and history serve as a tangible reminder of Cuba’s past times.

Check in to the newly renovated sea view rooms of the historic Riviera Hotel.

Enjoy an introductory discussion followed by a welcome dinner at L’Atelier. L,D

April 11, Thursday: HAVANA

Accompanied by an architectural historian, enjoy a carefully crafted walking tour of Old Havana, the finest example of a Spanish colonial city in the Americas. Enjoy the city’s many squares, its cathedral, and a stop at the Wilfredo Lam Center, the organizer of the Havana Biennial. The center is a cultural institution dedicated to the study, research, and promotion of contemporary visual arts from developing countries and includes a permanent exhibit of Wilfredo Lam’s lithographs and etchings.

After enjoying lunch at La Moneda Cubana, visit Ernest Hemingway’s home which has been lovingly restored by the Cuban government.

End the afternoon visiting with artist Rafael Villares. Though still in the early stages of his career, Villares’s work has gone from strength to strength, participating in the last four Havana Biennials.

Enjoy dinner this evening at Café Laurent. B,L,D

April 12, Friday: HAVANA

Today is the official opening day of the 13th Havana Biennial. Depending on what biennial-related events are happening, the itinerary may be modified.

This morning, visit the Biennial exhibits.

Continue on to the studio of Glenda Leon, a visual artist whose work expands from drawing to video art, including installation, objects, and photography.

Enjoy lunch at La Barraca, located on the beautiful grounds of the iconic National hotel.

After lunch, visit the Biennial focused exhibits

Enjoy dinner and the music of a wonderful jazz trio at Café Oriente this evening. B,L,D

April 13, Saturday: HAVANA

This morning visit the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes: Arte Cubano accompanied by curator Lucía Fernandez. The museum always hosts special biennial exhibits for the group to enjoy.

Continue on to the home of noted photographer Figueroa and his wife, Cristina Vives, a well-known Cuban art critic and dealer.

Enjoy lunch at the home and studio of artist Jose Fuster who has turned his neighborhood into one enormous piece of mosaic art.

After lunch, visit the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA). The school consists of five departments: music, ballet, modern dance, theater, and fine arts.

From here visit the Laboratorio Para El Arte where Alexis Leyva Machado (Kcho) opened a new art center in early 2014.

Enjoy drinks with artist Kadir Lopez followed by dinner at the home of artist Sandra Ramos. Her works focus on the recovery of social and individual memory, linked to the difficulties of daily life in Cuba. She is an outspoken critic of the polit-
cal manipulation of Cuba’s political history and uses her art to express this. B,L,D

April 14, Sunday: HAVANA

Depart for a full day excursion to the west part of Cuba, with its jungle-covered summits dropping down limestone cliffs to verdant valleys.

Visit the Orchid Farm at Soroa. The hilly grounds contain over 800 species of plants, including 200 endemic to Cuba, all thriving in the humid climate.

Continue on to the Valle de Vinales, Cuba’s most famous landscape, located in the province of Pinar del Rio.

Enjoy a visit to a tobacco farm to learn more about the growing of tobacco and the economics of the tobacco industry in Cuba.

Enjoy a wonderful lunch at a beautiful organic farm with breathtaking views.

After lunch spend some time exploring the sleepy town of Vinales before departing for Havana.

This evening, enjoy dinner at leisure. B,L

April 15, Monday: HAVANA

Morning round-table discussion with economist Ricardo Torres on the “Changing Forces of Cuba’s Economic Structure.”

The balance of the day is dedicated to the Biennial exhibits and includes a stop at the Studio 7 y 60.

Return to the hotel along the Malecon, Havana’s ocean-side promenade, which is used as an open-air gallery organized by the Cuban Arts Project.

Enjoy your farewell dinner at La Guarida which served as the setting for the main apartment in the film Fresa y Chocolate. B,L,D
April 16, Tuesday: RETURN

This morning, watch a dance rehearsal of *Danza Contemporanea de Cuba*, an extraordinary dance group that melds the techniques of classical ballet and American modern dance with the rippling spines and head rolls of traditional or folkloric Afro-Cuban dance, the complex rhythms of Cuban rumba, and the twirling hands and syncopation of Spanish flamenco. Continue on to the studio of Carlos Garaicoa.

Enjoy lunch before heading to the Havana airport for your early evening return flight home. (Flight purchased independently). B,L
Accompanying Scholar

Lester Tomé

Lester Tomé, PhD, is a Cuban-born scholar and associate professor in the Dance Department and an affiliate of the Latin American and Latino/a Studies Program at Smith College. He is also a faculty member in the Five College Dance Department. His courses for 2018-19 are Dance History: Political Bodies from the Stage to the Page, Dance Anthropology: Performed Identities and Embodies Cultures, Dancing Today: Aesthetics of Contemporary Dance and Critical Dance Studies: Social Theory and Research Methods.


In 2013-14, he was the Peggy Rockefeller Visiting Scholar at Harvard University’s David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. During 2014-15 he was a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow and an affiliate researcher at the Afro-Latin American Research Institute, at Harvard’s Hutchins Center.

He has published in various journals and contributed chapters to The Cambridge Companion to Ballet, The Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Ballet and The Routledge Companion to Dance Studies, among other publications. He serves on the editorial boards of Cuban Studies and Dance Research Journal.

Tomé has given lectures at Columbia, Harvard, Tufts, Haverford, Washington University in St. Louis and other institutions. He has been interviewed for NPR's Weekend Edition and Smith's Insight, and consulted for stories in Pointe Magazine, CNN, and Yahoo News. In 2004, he participated in the American Dance Festival's Institute for Dance Criticism as a fellow of the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York Times Foundation.

Program Costs and Inclusions

Trip Price: $3,580 per person
Single supplement: $690 per person

Tour cost includes: Educational program of lectures and discussions, accommodations in hotels as outlined in the itinerary based on double occupancy, all meals listed, one drink with lunch and one with dinner, bottled water kept on the bus, sightseeing and excursions as listed, transportation in a deluxe air-conditioned motor coach, the services of a local Cuban guide, a Cuban visa, and all basic gratuities.

Tour cost does not include: Roundtrip airfare to Cuba, meals not specified, beverages outside of one drink at mealtimes, luggage charges, trip cancellation, medical, and lost baggage insurance (above the minimum amount required by the Cuban government that is included with your commercial flight), and items of a purely personal nature and any items not listed.

13th Havana Biennial

Experience the city transformed into one of the largest galleries in the world.

Art spills out of galleries, schools, historical sites, and public spaces with installations and performances taking place on street corners and along the beautiful seafront promenade. The entire city comes together to celebrate the works of artists from countries around the world, each of them addressing the biennial’s theme, “The Construction of the Possible.”

For additional information or a more detailed itinerary, contact Amanda Bradshaw at Distant Horizons at (800) 333-1240 or amandab@distant-horizons.com
RESERVE YOUR TRIP TODAY!

To make a reservation please mail this form with a $1,000 non-refundable deposit check (per person) payable to “Distant Horizons” to: Distant Horizons, 350 Elm Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802

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Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)
Traveler 1:________________________________________   Birthdate__________
Traveler 2:________________________________________   Birthdate__________
Street Address _______________________________________________________
City ____________________________________State _______ZIP _____________
Home: ( _______ ) ____________________________________________________
Office: (  ________)___________________________________________________
E-mail: _____________________________________________________________

I/We have read the terms and conditions and authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

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☐ I prefer single accommodations (limited availability, single supplement applies).
☐ I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is not available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full 90 days prior to departure. Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, payable to Distant Horizons.
Terms and Conditions

Reservations and Payments: Reservations for this tour require a nonrefundable deposit of $1000 per person and an application form signed by the participant. Full balance of the trip cost is due 60 days prior or upon receipt of invoice and must be made by check payable to Distant Horizons.

Tour Price Includes: Educational program of lectures and discussions, accommodations in hotels as outlined in the itinerary based on double occupancy, all meals listed, one drink with lunch and one with dinner, bottled water kept on the bus, sightseeing and excursions as listed, transportation in a deluxe air-conditioned motor coach, the services of local Cuban guide, a Cuban visa, and all basic gratuities.

Visas: Distant Horizons will issue the necessary Cuban visa for all non-Cuban-born tour participants. Distant Horizons cannot be held responsible in any way for any cost incurred if they are denied entry into the country upon arrival even with a valid visa. It is the traveler’s responsibility to verify that all details of their visa are correct.

Tour Cost: Based on rates of currency exchange at time of printing (February 2019) and is subject to change with or without previous notice. If there is a price increase prior to the day of departure in the basic costs, such increases may be passed on to the participant. The minimum group size of this departure is 10 paying participants, should the number of participants fall below this number, a small group surcharge and/or revised staffing will apply.

Tour Price Does Not Include: Roundtrip airfare to Cuba, meals not specified in the itinerary, personal items such as laundry, email, fax or telephone calls, liquor, room service, independent and private transfers, departure tax of 25 CUCs in Cuba (included in commercial flight), and luggage charges. Any increases in the in-tour airfare (included as part of the program cost), security, or fuel surcharges imposed after the initial pricing of this program are not included.

Cancellations: Distant Horizons and Smith Travel reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason, including insufficient number of participants, and to decline to accept or retain any person as a participant at any time. Should this happen, refunds will be made without obligation, although we cannot be held responsible for any additional costs already incurred by participants.

If a participant cancels, the following refunds will be available upon written notice of cancellation to Distant Horizons:
Notice more than 30 days prior to departure: a refund less 50% of trip price.
No refund shall be issued if cancellation is received less than 30 days prior to departure date.
No refunds shall be issued after the tour has commenced. No refunds shall be issued for occasional missed meals, sightseeing tours, or any unused services.

Insurance: We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for travel insurance will be mailed upon confirmation. Neither the Smith Travel nor DH accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket or other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour.

Travel Advisories: The State Department issues each country a travel advisory number with a ranking number of 1 to 4 with “1” being “exercise normal precaution” and “4” being “do not travel.” Many factors go into determining this ranking and we recommend that you are familiar with the ranking currently assigned to the country/countries you plan to visit. A country without a US Embassy, (such as Iran) will automatically be assigned a “4” ranking. (https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html). Please note, Cuba currently has a “2” ranking. If, after a traveler has signed up for a trip, the ranking of the country/countries being visited changes, Distant Horizons will alert the traveler. A change in ranking from lower to higher is not necessarily considered a reason for cancellation without penalty. Each case will be reviewed by Distant Horizons and Smith Travel to determine if the trip will be operated. If the decision is made to cancel the trip, all monies paid will be refunded in full. Neither Distant Horizons nor Smith Travel can be held responsible for costs already incurred for the trip.

Responsibility: Distant Horizons and the Smith Travel act only in the capacity of agents for the hotels, airlines, bus companies, railroads, ship lines or owners or contractors providing accommodations, transportation, or other services. As a result, all coupons, receipts, or tickets are issued subject to the terms and conditions specified by the supplier. By acceptance of tour membership, the participant agrees that neither Distant Horizons nor the Smith Travel nor any of their subsidiaries shall become liable or responsible for personal injury, damage to persons or property, loss, delay, or irregularity caused by persons not controlled by it, such as (without limitation) airlines, bus and shipping companies, suppliers of accommodations or other services, or resulting from any acts of God, defects in vehicles, strikes, wars, whether declared or otherwise, civil disturbances, medical or customs regulations, acts of terrorism, epidemics, or government restrictions. Distant Horizons and the Smith Travel cannot be held responsible for unfavorable weather or closure of access routes due to bad weather conditions. Distant Horizons and the Smith Travel are not responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the participant as a result of the above mentioned causes.

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