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## Vuitton salon showcases Miamian's art installation

]Miami Herald Staff

On Thursday at Bal Harbour Shops, Louis Vuitton launched the Miami stop of a new cross-country, cross-cultural charitable series, Salon de Louis Vuitton, with a one-night-only art installation by Miami native **Teresita Fernandez**. The event benefited the Wolfsonian-FIU. Fernandez attended Southwest Miami Senior High and earned her B.F.A. from Florida International University in 1990, eventually settling in Brooklyn.

Apart from such Miami honors as exhibitions at FIU's Frost Art Museum and the landmark 2001 Globe **!!BEGIN TAG!! Miami !!END TAG!!** Island show at the Bass Museum of Art curated by artist **Robert Chambers** ("That was a great moment, before Art Basel got slick"), Fernandez has had exhibitions at the New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York and Washington, D.C.'s Corcoran Gallery. In 2005, she won a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship.

Fernandez has a permanent installation, *Hothouse (Blue)* at the Louis Vuitton Union Square Maison store in San Francisco; her Bal Harbour project was inspired by Vuitton's Damier Graphite luggage collection. The installation entailed 12 original pieces from her Nocturnal Series, mixed with pieces of luggage: made entirely of graphite, the work is a reflection upon the landscape of Borrowdale, England, where the material was first mined in the 16th century. Last year, at her New York gallery Lehmann Maupin, Fernandez explored the same artistic terrain with her Nocturnal Series.

Taking in the lively scene at the reception, which included a short concert with **Jorge Villamizar**, formerly of Bacilos, Fernandez seemed happy to be back in Miami.

"I really support what the Wolfsonian is doing with arts education," she said. "If a small percentage of the money that goes into Basel parties went to support young artists, Miami could be one big hot pot of creativity."

TOM AUSTIN

### CINTAS WINNER

Miami conceptual artist **Leyden Rodriguez-Canasova** is this year's winner of the Cintas Foundation Award in the Visual Arts. The foundation's Brandon Fradd Award in Music Composition goes to **Fabian Almazan**. Each award carries a \$10,000 creative-development prize.

Since 1963, the foundation, established with funds from the estate of the late industrialist and arts patron **Oscar B. Cintas**, has awarded more than 300 fellowships to artists of Cuban lineage who reside off the island. Previous visual-arts winners include **Lydia Rubio**, **Cundo Bermudez**, **Luis Gispert** and **Quisqueya Henriquez**. Music-composition winners have included **Mario Bauza**, **Aldo Rafael Forte** and **Tania Leon**.

This year's runners-up are **Yoel Diaz Vazquez** and **Gabriel Martinez** in visual arts and **Yalil Guerra** in composition.

## **MORE HONORS**

Viewers who tune into Bravo at 11 p.m. Wednesday for the new series *Work of Art: The Next Great Artist* may recognize at least one of the 14 contestants competing for a solo show at the Brooklyn Museum and a \$100,000 prize: **Jaclyn Santos**, 26, who grew up in Miami and graduated from South Dade Senior High.

Santos went on to the Maryland Institute College of Art, graduating cum laude in 2007, and then spent two years as a painting assistant to **Jeff Koons**. On her website, she says that her work, usually featuring isolated women -- sometimes posed with such masculine images as sportscars and urinals -- ``explores themes of voyeurism, vulnerability and identity."

Santos writes that she is concerned with ``defying stereotypes and obscuring the boundary between `high' and `low' art. I like to create a tension between the viewer as a voyeur and the viewer as a participant."

In each *Work of Art* episode, she and the other participants will be challenged to create in a variety of media -- painting, photography, sculpture, collage and industrial design. Judges will be New York gallery owners **Bill Powers** and **Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn**; **Jerry Saltz**, senior art critic for New York magazine, and series host **China Chow**. The series will also feature such guests as photographer **Andres Serrano** and mix-media artist **John Kessler**.