

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Arturo Herrera was born in Caracas, Venezuela. He received his BFA in 1982 from the University of Tulsa, OK, before graduating with an MFA from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

His work has been highly praised for its combination of elements and ability to evoke memory, and Herrera has been honored by many awards, such as the Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst Fellowship.

Herrera has had solo exhibitions at Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva; Dia Center for the Arts, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; UCLA Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; and P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City; among others. His work also appeared in the Whitney Biennial in 2002.

EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

- Untitled (Black on dark green), 2021, Silkscreen on cut-out felt, 63 x 47 ¼ inches
- Untitled (Black on grey), 2021, Silkscreen on cut-out felt, 63 x 47 ¼ inches
- Untitled (Black on red), 2021, Silkscreen on cut-out felt, 63 x 47 ¼ inches
- (3) Untitled, 2021, Collage, mixed media on paper, 39 ¾ x 27 ½ inches
- Untitled, 2021, Collage, mixed media on paper, 22 x 15 ¾ inches
- (2) Untitled, 2021, Collage and mixed media on canvas, 23 ¾ x 19 ¾ inches
- I Heard Them and I Still Hear Them Elements N° 1–7, 2018, Collage and mixed media on painted wood, Series of 7 collages: 22.875 x 18.125 inches each
- Set Design Studies For Dance Elements N° 1–15, 2019, 2021, Collage and mixed media on handmade paper, Series of 15 collages: 19.625 x 29.375 inches each
- (2) Untitled, 2020, Collage and mixed media on wood panel, 19 ¾ x 11 ¾ inches
- (4) Untitled, 2020, Collage and mixed media on silkscreen, 22 x 15 ¾ inches
- (3) Untitled, 2020, Collage and mixed media on paper, 22 x 15 ¾ inches
- (2) Untitled, 2020, Collage and mixed media on board, 71 ¾ x 36 ½ inches
- Untitled, 2020, Collage, mixed media on paper, 39 ¾ x 27 ½ inches



Courtesy of the artist.

GALLERY GUIDE

APR 14 – JUL 2, 2023

There is the space where a thought would be, but which you can't get hold of. I love that space. It's the reason I like to deal with fragments. Because no matter what the thought would be if it were fully worked out, it wouldn't be as good as the suggestion of a thought that the space gives you. Nothing fully worked out could be so arresting, spooky.

-“Anne Carson, The Art of Poetry No. 88”,
Paris Review (No. 171, Fall 2004)

Can I make something so clear ambiguous? Can I uproot it? In which ways is the baggage that we bring to the new image relevant to the vivid recollections within our cultural context?

-Arturo Herrera, 2021

The Contemporary Dayton is proud to present *Between*, an environment comprised of recent works and a site-specific double wall mural by globally renowned Venezuelan artist Arturo Herrera.

Melding abstraction, collage, art historical and pop culture imagery, Herrera has produced an innovative vocabulary using modernist strategies of fragmentation, re-composition, repetition and composed and gestural mark making. His recent mixed media works straddle painting, sculpture and installation, extending into the gallery spaces via two large, colorful, writhing murals that were designed specifically for The Co's architecture.

In keeping with his practice over the last few years, Herrera's explorations in abstraction focus on the generative tension between what is revealed and what is concealed. The murals and gathered works in this exhibition merge these ideas into a singular environmental work that exemplifies his vocabulary of the found and the invented, comprised of form, color, shape with an indelible sense of rhythm, time and movement.

ARTURO HERRERA:
Between

The Dr. Robert L. Brandt, Jr. Gallery

Earlier in his career, Herrera collaged found images from cartoons, coloring books, and fairy tales, combining fragments of Disney-like characters with violent and sexual imagery to make work that bordered figuration and abstraction, subverting the innocence of cartoon referents with a darker psychology.

The work featured in *Between* represents an evolution of these ideas. While Herrera's methods of layering found imagery and abstraction have remained, he increasingly uses both to explore both the art historical generally and the history, methods and functions of abstraction more specifically.

With his felt works, Herrera cuts shapes from the material and pins them to the wall so that they hang as a tangled form, resembling the drips and splatters of what we have collectively come to think as an abstract painting.

Herrera's murals also delve into the recognizable ideas and practices of gestural abstraction, but on an environmental scale that he compares to the qualities of dance and music. In the case of the site-specific murals in *Between*, the idea of erasure plays a prominent role as a tool for making abstract imagery. This concept is also manifested in Herrera's recent mixed media works that painting and collage.

By obscuring parts of an image, we are seeing less but expanding our idea of what is missing. The less that the image reveals, the more we can expand it.

-Arturo Herrera, 2019

Together, the murals and the recent works selected by The Contemporary Dayton and Arturo Herrera that comprise *Between*, suggest a way to use our visual interaction with the world as a means with which to locate meaning and deeper understanding.



THE CONTEMPORARY DAYTON

25 W 4th Street, Dayton, OH 45402
937/224-3822 | codayton.org



Scan to sign-up for our
ENewsletter



Scan for more programs
and events or visit
codayton.org

PRESENTING SPONSOR



EDUCATION & PUBLIC
PROGRAM PARTNER

Dr. Robert L. Brandt, Jr.

CONTENT AND CREATIVE PARTNER



HOSPITALITY PARTNERS



ARTURO HERRERA: *Between*
Courtesy of the artist; Sikkema Jenkins & Co., New York, NY; and
Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL

GALLERY & CoSHOP HOURS

Mon–Tue	Closed
Wed–Sat	11 am–6 pm
Sun	11 am–4 pm
First Fridays May–Sept 'til 10 pm	
Always Free	

The Contemporary Dayton receives annual operating support from the AES Foundation, the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Culture Works, the Montgomery County Arts & Cultural District, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Ohio Arts Council, the Virginia W. Kettering Family Foundation and Members.





ARTURO HERRERA
Untitled (Black on red), 2021
 Silkscreen on cut-out felt
 63 x 47 1/4 inches
 Courtesy of the artist and Sikkema Jenkins & Co.



ARTURO HERRERA
Untitled (Black on grey), 2021,
 Silkscreen on cut-out felt, 63 x 47 1/4 inches
 Courtesy of the artist and Sikkema Jenkins & Co.