Arts & Cultural Travel Presents:

CUBA: Mixed Media Photography Workshop with Janet O'Neal
10 days
Miami (2), Havana (6), Trinidad (2)

Departure Date: June 1, 2016
Return Date: June 10, 2016
US Gateway: Miami

ITINERARY

DAY 1 – MIAMI

Travelers will make their own flight arrangements to Miami. Overnight at a hotel in Miami (TBA) in close proximity to the Miami Airport. Cuba pre-tour briefing will be held at the hotel.

DAY 2 - HAVANA

Flight from Miami to Havana. To set our sense of place, upon arriving in Havana we’ll make a stop in the famous Plaza de la Revolución on the way to our hotel. After settling into our accommodations, participants will have the afternoon to themselves to experience and photograph the sights, sounds and colors of the city in the afternoon light. We’ll regroup for a lovely dinner in local restaurant; have a chance to get acquainted with fellow travelers and hear from Janet about our upcoming creative sessions. The evening is yours to enjoy a beautiful walk around Old Havana and take in some of the incredible music in the nearby cafes.

Dinner
DAY 3 - HAVANA
You may want to consider rising early to capture the soft glow of the morning light and stroll the streets to photograph Havana as it wakes. After breakfast there will be a guided tour of Old Havana enabling you to draw inspiration from the complex history of the fascinating country founded in the 16th century by the Spaniards. A fabulous restoration project is bringing back to glory some of the baroque and neoclassical buildings in this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We’ll have a chance to explore the many art galleries situated among the elegant arches and columns of the restored colonial streets. And, if you’re lucky, you may just come upon some of Cuba’s top artists at work there, or at least minding the shop. Art in its many forms has been a priority since the early days of the revolution, when Fidel Castro’s government recognized its importance in the forging of a new Cuban identity. The first generations of art students were trained with classical Soviet methods but, since the 1980s, there has been an increased expression of “Cubaness” or Cubanidad among artists.

In the evening we’ll enjoy dinner, and engaging conversation in local restaurant. You may want to take a stroll along the Malecon after dinner, not only are the ocean views spectacular, but this is one of the city's most soulful and quintessentially Cuban places to experience, place where the whole city seems to come out to meet. With the pastel colored buildings paled by the sun and the salt magically lite by the setting sun showcase the interesting mix of 20th century architecture a sure feast for the senses.

Breakfast, Dinner

Creative Sessions:
There will be daily discussions led by Janet O'Neal on how to use photography not only to document our travels, but how to utilized the “Eye” of the camera to open us to symbols that will then gift us with a deeper understanding of the culture this fascinating country.

Each afternoon while in Havana we will spend time in the studio of a fellow Cuban artist. Janet will be demonstrating the photo transfer process that she uses to create her stunning mixed media works. There will be discussions and experimentation with different techniques as we learn how to use the rich imagery we have captured during our travels bringing to us a deeper understanding about this intriguing country and it’s people. We’ll be experiencing Cuba in a way that most travelers will not and creating captivating works of art!

Evenings are yours to create, our guides will help you select the best local restaurants and music venues.
Breakfast

DAY 4 - HAVANA
After breakfast we will drive to the outskirts of Havana to the house of José Fuster, the “Picasso of the Caribbean”. Every inch of his house is artistically adorned with his brightly painted sculptures and mosaics! In fact his talent and style spread to other houses next to him to create an eclectic “gaudiesque” neighborhood known as “Fusterlandia”. Ample time will be given to capture the essence of place through photographs.
After lunch we’ll head back into the studio to continue our engaging discussions with our fellow Cuban artist as we work on our projects.

Evenings are yours to create, our guides will help you select the best local restaurants and music venues.
Breakfast
DAY 5 – HAVANA
After breakfast we will tour FotoTeca. Opened in 1986 to preserve, study and promote Cuba’s photographic heritage, FotoTeca boasts the nation’s largest, most valuable collection of Cuban photographs as well as a considerable amount of documents related to the history of photography. Although its exhibit space is extremely modest, Fototeca—housed in the former Casa de Juan Mata—holds around 12 exhibitions a year in its two galleries. Galería Joaquín Biez is mostly devoted to works by up and coming young photographers. The Galería María Eugenia Haya exhibits works by established Cuban photographers as well as international figures.

After lunch we head back into the studio to continue our engaging discussions with our fellow Cuban artist and work on our projects.
Evenings we’ll enjoy dinner and have time to enjoy the sights, and sounds of Cuba at night.
Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 6 – CIENFUEGOS & TRINIDAD
After breakfast we begin our journey south through the countryside of Cuba with our first stop in the beautiful colonial town of Cienfuegos, which was founded in 1819 as a Spanish territory but was initially settled by immigrants of French origin. It became a trading place for sugar cane, tobacco and coffee and is situated in the heart of the country’s sugar cane, mango, tobacco and coffee production area. We’ll have a guided tour and ample time to photograph along with lunch in a local café. Then onto Trinidad where we check into our hotel and have the afternoon and early evening open to wandering and photographing. We’ll meet for dinner in a local restaurant. Evening is free to stroll the beautiful streets of Trinidad, stop into a café and enjoy the rhythms of the night.
Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 6 - TRINIDAD
After breakfast a walking tour will introduce us to the highlights of this Spanish town founded in the early 16th century. There will be great photo’s to capture with its cobble-stoned streets, pastel colored houses and ornate wrought iron windows. Included in our stay in Trinidad will be a visit to local pottery maker Azariel Santander and the Valle de los Ingenios a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This was the center of sugar refining in the 18th and 19th centuries. We will visit the old sugar refinery of Manaca Iznaga. The rest of the day is free to photograph. Dinner and engaging conversation at a local restaurant.
Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7 - TRINIDAD & HAVANA
After breakfast we will begin our journey back to Havana with stop in the town of Santa Clara to photograph, and gather inspiration from the mausoleum of Che Guevara. We’ll settle into our accommodations in Havana and you’ll have the afternoon and evening to take in the sights at your leisure. Our guides will help you select the best local restaurants and music venues.
Breakfast

DAY 8 – HAVANA
After breakfast we will make our way to the Taller Experimental de Gráfica de Habana - Printmaking in Cuba dates back to the 18th century and became a subject in the art education system, becoming an independent specialty. In July 1962, the experimental printmaking workshop on Plaza de la Catedral was established by Cuban artist Orlando Suárez and Chilean
painter José Venturelli using old printing stones and machinery that had been used for cigar decorations. Since its beginnings, the workshop focused purely on artistic projects and has been open to the most important Cuban printmakers, who have carried out an intensive work of creation and experimentation, a crucial factor in the boost experienced by the art of printmaking at present. The small Galería del Grabado upstairs sells excellent, non-touristy prints, including etchings, lithographs, woodcuts and collagraphs.

Afternoon will be spent in the studio finishing up projects. Dinner in a local restaurant.

**Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 9 – HAVANA**

After breakfast we’ll venture over to Factoría Habana a gallery dedicated to promoting Cuba’s contemporary art, the gallery hosts an average of four exhibitions a year. These feature both established and up-and-coming Cuban artists, such as René Francisco, Rocio Garcia and Carlos Montes de Oca. Today, the gallery is at the forefront of Cuba’s experimental art, showing some of the edgiest works by young artists. Its experimental rein extends to physical infrastructure – artists typically make creative use of floors, walls and ceilings for two- and three-dimensional visual and conceptual presentation, and more. We’ll have time in the studio to finish our projects and then meet at a local restaurant for our farewell dinner.

**Breakfast, Dinner**

**DAY 10 – MIAMI**

Breakfast and our return flight to Miami. We’ll overnight in a hotel near the Miami Airport (TBA).

**Breakfast**

**DAY 11 - Travelers are responsible for their own flight arrangements home.**

_This is a representative itinerary. Content is subject to change – an open mind and sense of adventure are required for travel to Cuba as many things are still controlled by the Cuban government._

**INCLUDED:**

- Charter flights between Miami and Havana.
- Full time guide while in Cuba.
- 10 nights accommodations in twin rooms with private bathrooms.
- 8 breakfasts, 7 dinners (no meals in Miami)
- All the activities, entrances and transport as per the itinerary.
- 24hr emergency service during program.
- Visas and other documentation needed for entry into Cuba.
- Cuba exit tax
- Travel Insurance
- Art Instruction by Janet O’Neal

**NOT INCLUDED:**

- Tips for guide and drivers.
- Passport fees.
- Beverages with meals.
- Checked luggage fees on charter flight (currently $20 - weight limit applies).
- Meals in Miami.
Our Artist

Janet O'Neal has become renowned throughout the country for her dynamic one of a kind works. As a twenty-nine year veteran of the art scene, her work has received critical acclaim. Her works include paintings, mixed media assemblages, photography and sculpture; however she is most famous for her energetic abstract works and multimedia assemblages. Years of painting experience and experiments with texture and collage processes merged with the found objects and became a new exciting form of art that carried with it a new voice for the artist.

"My work as an artist is intrinsically connected with my life and personal growth"

What to Expect

"As we travel through this amazing country we will use photography not only to document our travels, but to utilize the "Eye" of the camera to open us to symbols that will then gift us with a deeper understanding of the culture and our own interior life. So the focus will be more on "seeing" with the camera versus a traditional photography workshop. Here the editing is where the magic will happen as we bring our images into the studio and learn a photo transfer process similar to the polaroid transfer method. Our photographs will continue to evolve as we add collage, drawing and paint on the images to from very unique, personal one of a kind photo images. By using this mixed media process, we will be able to bring more of the personal and emotional experiences of Cuba into our work. We will push beyond traditional photography with these unique approaches."

What type of camera will you need?

Any type of digital camera will work, just as long as you know how to use it.
i.e.: smart phone, compact/point-and-shoot, or DSLR

Enrollment for this workshop is open to all creative adventurers with an interest in using the camera as a way to experience place.
So that we could set the right expectations for our upcoming art adventure, we asked Janet a few questions:

Who is your ideal creative traveler?
My ideal creative traveler is anyone with any level of expertise in photography who is open to learning a new way “seeing” the travel environment and is open to experimental photography printing methods. If you are inspired by travel and love photographing the world around you, this is the trip for you.

My workshop will introduce new ways of “seeing” with your camera so you will be able to take your travel photos to another level. We will allow the camera to open us to symbols in the environment, which in turn can bring to us a deep understanding about this rich country. The most exciting part will be bringing the images back to the studio and experimenting with photo image transfers and multimedia photo collage. Here the both professional and amateur will enjoy exploring a new way of presenting their work. What you learn in my workshop will inspire your photography and art for years to come.

What I want to Share:
Travel and journeying into a new world opens places in ourselves that allow for a greater free flow of creative ideas. We leave our normal lives behind and allow our new our new travel world to speak to us through our photography. I will share with my Creatives my many years of creative experience in seeing the world in new and exciting ways. This will inspire them to go beyond their usual ways of “seeing” and delve more deeply into the world around them. In the studio, I will share not only techniques in printing and photo collage, but also provide a creative environment of inspiration where each individual Creative feels comfortable to experiment, learn and grow as an artist and photographer. I want my Creatives to return home with a renewed excitement for their photography that they can transfer to their home environment.

Contact Us Today

Package Price including Creative Instruction led by Janet O’Neal
$5,125.00 per person double occupancy
*Single supplement available
$1,000.00 deposit to reserve your place
Contact us for payment schedule

Limited to 12 lucky participants!
Questions? Give us a ring, send us an email, we love to chat about our artists and adventures!
617-855-9209 or info@artsandculturaltravel.com

Registration/Payments
ACT recommends that participants register as soon as possible as flights and hotels fill up quickly. The registration documents are available on our website www.artsandculturaltravel.com. Please contact us with your preferred form of payment.

Important ** Participants must register with their names as they appear on will appear on their passports.

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