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FriendsWithYou is the fine art collaborative of Samuel Borkson and Arturo Sandoval III, working collectively since 2002 with the sole purpose of spreading the positive message of Magic, Luck, and Friendship™. As artists working in a variety of mediums, including paintings, sculpture, large-scale experiential installations, public playgrounds, published works and live performances, FriendsWithYou's mission is to affect world culture by cultivating special moments of spiritual awareness and powerful, joyous interaction.

Forging their own brand of post pop visual language a la Murakami, Arturo Herrera and Yayoi Kusama, FriendsWithYou take a spiritual and serene approach to form and figure. Their reductive and simplified use of geometric abstraction always contains a whimsical touch. Taking Bourriaud's, Relational Aesthetics to heart and hand, the artists make art of the Post-Internet era. By reinterpreting religious traditions, symbols and spiritual practices, FriendsWithYou invert solemn and serious ideas through the act of play to open up a connection to the divine. Many FriendsWithYou works reference toys because they are meant for play, a tool for unstructured free association and interaction. Their sculptures and paintings, inflatables and objects are meant to trigger the buried, neglected urges and yearnings that a seasoned art viewer may not expect to have activated; playfulness, laughter and inquisitiveness, with an end result of feeling connected. Influenced by the simple happiness found in everyday life, FriendsWithYou's work is designed to be accessible to all.

Throughout the last twelve years, FriendsWithYou have gained international recognition as pioneers in the field of experiential art. FriendsWithYou installations are fully immersive experiences that draw audiences into a magical world where the line between imagination and reality is blurred.

Selected exhibitions include High Line, NYC, Art Basel Miami Beach, Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, the Indianapolis Museum of Art, Haus der Kulturen der Welt Museum, Berlin and Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum. Permanent collections include the Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami, the Goldman Family Collection and the Montblanc Collection.



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Samuel Albert Borkson  
1979, Plantation, FL

Arturo Sandoval III  
1976, Havana, Cuba

**Solo Exhibitions:**

2013

- Somewhere Over the Rainbow  
Mondrian South Beach, Miami Beach, FL
- Psychic Stones – Paul Kasmin’s PK  
Shop, New York, NY
- Inner Vision in Between – MCLEMOI  
Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2012

Happy Rainbow – Tuen Mun Town Plaza,  
Hong Kong, China

2011

- Inner Space, The Secrets of the  
Unknown – The Hole anex in Miami, FL
- Sweet Dreams – de la Cruz Collection-  
Wynwood, FL
- In The Beginning – Colette, Paris, France
- :) – The Hole Gallery, New York, NY
- Rainbow City – The High Line Park,  
New York, NY
- Day Dreamers – Narwhal Art Projects,  
Toronto, Canada

2009

Pictopia Fun House - Haus der Kulturen  
der Welt Museum, Berlin, Germany

2008

- Fun House – Scope Art Fair, Art Basel  
Miami, FL
- Dream Maker – Indianapolis Museum  
of Art, Indianapolis, IN

2007

- Wish Come True - Soovac,  
Minneapolis, MN
- We Are Friends – Walker Art Center,  
Minneapolis, MN

2006

- Rainbow Valley Permanent Playground –  
Turnberry for the Arts, Aventura, FL
- Skywalkers - Art Basel Miami Beach,  
Miami, FL
- Birds Of Pray - Merry Karnowsky Gallery,  
Los Angeles, CA
- Power Pond – Museum of Contemporary  
Art, North Miami, FL

2005

Cloud City – Museum of Contemporary Art  
@ The Goldman Warehouse, North Miami, FL

2004

- Get Lucky - Merry Karnowsky Gallery,  
Los Angeles, CA
- Get Lucky - The Box Space, Miami, FL



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**Group Exhibitions:**

2014

This is Not a Toy – DX Canada’s Design Museum, Toronto, Canada

2013

Cast of Characters – 709 Gallery of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Pittsburgh, PA

2012

- Cast of Characters – Clarion University Art Gallery, Clarion, PA
- Flux Screening Series – The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- Flights from Wonder – Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA

2011

- Pictoplasma: Post Digital Monsters – La Gaité Lyrique, Paris, France
- NADA Art Fair – Miami, FL
- Rainbow Friends – Coletivo Amor de Madre, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- NADA Art Fair – New York, NY
- The South Florida Cultural Consortium – The Frost Art Museum, Miami, FL
- Party Animals – Royal/T Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- FACEMAKER – Royal/T Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- Dadarhea – Canada Gallery, New York, NY

2010

- It Ain’t Fair – OHWOW Gallery, Miami, FL
- Dadarhea – OHWOW Gallery, Miami, FL
- Re:Form School presented by REDU – New York, NY
- Manifest Equality – Los Angeles, CA

2009

Thing: Beware the Material World – Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, Australia

2008

Hexagone – Miami Art Space, Miami, FL

2007

- Art Parade– Deitch Projects New York, NY
- Guild – Emmanuel Galerie Perrotin, Miami, FL

2006

- The official FriendsWithYou Bootleg Show – Helium Cowboy, Hamburg, Germany
- Pictoplasma 2 – Berlin, Germany
- Demons to Diamonds – Locusts Projects, Miami, FL

2005

- Hanging By a Thread – The Moore Space, Miami, FL
- Everywhere Show – Mendenhall Sobeiski Gallery, Pasadena, CA
- Project FOX – Copenhagen, Denmark
- Optic Nerve – Official selection – Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL
- MOVE Conference: Stories in Motion – New York, NY

2004

- Pictoplasma – Berlin, Germany
- Characters at War – Zentralbuero, Berlin, Germany
- Aqui Uzumaki – HPGRP Hanna, Ginza Tokyo, Japan
- Pictoplasma – Future is Now Gallery, NY, NY

2003

- Appetite for Mutilation – FWY and Dave Choe Exhibition – 111 Minna Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- SHIFT MOV Animation Festival – Tokyo, Japan
- Mr. Wizard the Legend of Speed – Los Angeles, CA // New York, NY
- Russian Doll Show – The Wurst Gallery, Portland, OR
- Stick em’ up – OBJEX Art Space, Miami, FL
- See This and Die – The Creek, Miami, FL

**Awards**

2010

South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship for Visual and Media Artists

**Collections**

- Museum of Contemporary Art – Miami, FL
- Tony Goldman Family Collection – Miami, FL
- Montblanc International – Hamburg, Germany
- Emmanuel Perrotin – Miami, FL

