

Tomás Sánchez: Inner Landscape

November 18, 2021— January 22, 2022

Opening Reception: November 18, 6–8pm

Press Release

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The Directors of Marlborough New York are delighted to announce *Inner Landscape*, an exhibition of recent paintings and works on paper by Tomás Sánchez. This will be the artist's first solo exhibition with Marlborough since 2005, showcasing nearly a decade of work. The exhibition will open with a reception on Thursday, November 18, from 6–8pm, and will remain on view through Saturday, January 22, 2022.

Inner Landscape shows the prescient juxtaposition of two parallel bodies of work: paradise on earth and vast fields of trash. Tomás Sánchez's hypnotic vistas cannot be attributed to any specific geographic location; they are entirely imaginary. Often alluding to his many travels and his garden, these paintings are, first and foremost, guided by his daily practice of meditation, which he has maintained for nearly five decades. Sánchez writes:

When I enter a state of meditation it's as if I'm in a jungle or a forest; the mind enters into a great exhilarated state, like an exuberant jungle where you can experience fear, desire, anguish—all types of emotions and feelings. When I begin to feel that there's a point of inner consciousness everything goes toward that inner space, that inner river. Everything goes toward that place of quiet, that realm of tranquility within the forest where there is a lake.

Sánchez's recent compositions are notably anchored in the vocabulary of American abstraction and Minimalism. Within these paintings, there are inherent compositional tensions and harmonies, beyond the meticulous detail, that guide the viewer through space. Each painting on view is the result of months—often years—of the artist's dedicated attention.

Marlborough

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Light: Outside, Inside, 2021
acrylic on linen
39% × 31½ in. / 100 × 80 cm

Providing a contrast to Sánchez's more well-known subjects are three of the artist's large-scale trash landscapes. Many of Sánchez's followers are familiar with his pristine, paradisiacal, renditions of nature, but have been less exposed to these stark depictions of trash that portray humanity's incessant consumption and violence towards the environment. This body of work is essential to Sánchez's practice as he began producing these works in the early 1980s while living in Cuba and has continued the series to this day. These contrasting series on view strengthen one another and articulate the artist's singular and contemporary approach to landscape painting.

Tomás Sánchez was born in 1948 in Aguada de Pasajeros, Cuba. He began his studies as a painter in 1964 at the San Alejandro School of Plastic Arts in Havana and later at the Escuela Nacional de Arte. In 1980 he won the Joan Miró Drawing Prize, given by the Miró Foundation in Barcelona and in 1984 he won the Amelia Peláez Award for painting at Havana's first biennial. In 1985 he had his first retrospective at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Havana. In 1989 he left Cuba to live in Mexico and subsequently moved to southern Florida. He joined the Marlborough Gallery in 1996. In 2003 a substantial monograph on the artist's body of work was published by Skira with an essay by the South American poet and Nobel Laureate, Gabriel García Márquez and texts by Edward J. Sullivan. Sánchez currently lives and works in Costa Rica and Miami.

Inner Landscape is the result of nearly six years of collaboration between Marlborough, the artist, and a number of private collections. This exhibition has been made possible by those collectors who have entrusted us with their paintings, allowing us to present a cohesive narrative of Sánchez's last decade of work.

A fully illustrated catalogue with texts by Susan Aberth and Gabriel García Márquez will accompany the exhibition.

Effective August 17, 2021, Marlborough requires all staff and visitors over the age of 12 to show proof of at least one dose of a COVID-19 Vaccine for entry. Masks are required for all visitors. Proof of vaccination may include CDC Vaccination Card (or photo), NYC COVID Safe App, New York State Excelsior Pass, NYC Vaccination Record, or an official immunization record from outside NYC or the U.S.



La batalla, 2015
acrylic on canvas
78½ × 97¾ in.
199.4 × 248.3 cm

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