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In Dreams Awake: A documentary film about artist Humberto Calzada directed and written by Anabel Leal and Reinaldo Cruz

Cuban Research Institute, Florida International University

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Cuban Research Institute

School of International and Public Affairs



In Dreams Awake

A documentary film about artist Humberto Calzada
directed and written by Anabel Leal and Reinaldo Cruz

March 8, 2013 | 7:00 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus
GL100 (across from the Green Library)

Humberto Calzada is one of the most prominent Cuban-American artists, who lives in Miami since 1960. The main subject of his painting has been the colonial and neoclassical architecture of Havana. His work continues a classical Latin American artistic tradition: a dreamlike realism, a tension created by the contrast between calm and conflict, and the use of timeless symbols as a universal language. Throughout his career, Calzada has applied these themes through architectural imagery. He depicts harmony through the use of natural elements, and conflict through the opposition of the ephemeral movement of light and water against the static force of stone and glass. Calzada's work has been widely displayed in museums and galleries and forms part of numerous private, corporate, and public collections.

The documentary *In Dreams Awake* (Imago Studios, 2012) provides a retrospective assessment of Calzada's artistic trajectory since he started painting in 1972. The documentary covers various phases, beginning with an anecdotal period based on personal memories of his home and culminating in a reconstructive phase in which he imaginatively restores private and public buildings in Havana by painting over enlarged photographs. The film features insightful interviews with the painter and his wife, Carmen Kholý-Calzada, as well as notable art critics Ricardo Pau-Llosa, Elizabeth Cerejido, and Jesús Rosado, and journalists and writers Carlos Alberto Montaner and Ileana Fuentes. The documentary is in Spanish with English subtitles.

A panel discussion with the artist, as well as the directors and writers of the documentary will follow the film screening. This event is cosponsored by the Frost Art Museum, the Center for the Humanities in an Urban Environment, and WPBT2. It is free and open to the public.

For information and to RSVP, please contact CRI at (305) 348-1991.