

Aida Tejada - Urban Layers

The human being, as the dominant species, placed urban society as part of a logical path to civilization, creating not only new social tensions but also an extensive and intensive environmental impact.

This designed life, like a whirlwind, drags us with indifference into an automated mass; individual thought is ejected from our perceived plane of action. In this condition we lose the connection between humanity and nature, a bridge we inherited from the animals.

In our blinding infatuation to be self-labeled as “superior beings,” we force ourselves into a vicious circle. We become executioner and victims of our own actions. Our footprint is bold and the future is blurry.

The images I work with stem from everyday observation of the human condition and the interaction with its surroundings. The imperfections I encounter tend to take the concept of time and space out of context and strip everything away – landscape, gender, cultural background, and our biases – to create a new history in the shape of a dream.

The concept of time and space is captured within the acrylic skin I create as a series of epidermal layers. The process becomes a metaphor for human skin, created from individual cells into the shape of a living being, with all its flaws and irregularities. Through their imperfections, I have made a personal ontology that expresses my doubt about assumptions that we exist as a ‘civilized’ species.

Bio

A native of the Dominican Republic, Aida Tejada spent half of her life experiencing diverse cultures. The fact that she earned a degree in Psychology and communication, adds intellectual substance to her visual vocabulary.

While she is well versed in traditional photography, her artistic inclination from the start has been experimental. She uses various alternative photographic processes and hands-on photo-transfer techniques to create her work.

Aida is currently exploring acrylic skin as her primary medium, creating images from scratch, adding multiple layers of texture that enrich the already present histories of transferred photos. Additional treatment with drawing or painting techniques contributes to transforming each work into a one-of-a-kind piece.

Seeking alternative perspectives to reality, Aida makes the subject irrelevant. She transforms the ordinary into an aesthetic statement. She views the world with a heightened sense of emotion and empathy, creating poetic narratives.

Aida has participated in numerous exhibitions. Currently, she lives in Miami and teaches experimental photography at her studio.