

## SARAH GRILO



Sarah Grilo en su estudio Nueva York, 1964  
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Born in Buenos Aires in 1919, Sarah Grilo began her early studies in painting with the renowned Spanish artist, Vicente Puig. Grilo lived in Argentina, France and Spain before receiving a J. S. Guggenheim Fellowship in 1961, and subsequently moved to New York. In 1970, the artist left for the south of Spain, where she would stay until 1979 with her husband, the artist José Antonio Fernández-Muro, and their children. From 1980 she alternated her stay between Paris and Madrid, where she definitely moved to live with her husband in 1985, until her death in 2007.

In 1952, Grilo formed part of the *Grupo de Artistas Modernos de la Argentina* assembled by Aldo Pellegrini, which included the artists Enio Iommi, Tomás Maldonado, Alfredo Hlito, Lidy Prati, José Antonio Fernández-Muro, among others. The group had exhibitions at the Museu de Arte Moderna in Rio de Janeiro and at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam. In 1956, Grilo was part of the envoy to the Venice Biennial. In the United States her work evolved from an initial post-cubist figuration to geometrical abstraction. By merging elements of abstract expressionism and an amalgamation of language, symbols, and scribbles, Grilo created an energetic painting style in the early 1960s that anticipates the street art of graffiti artists such as Jean-Michel Basquiat. Following her time in New York, Grilo's output evolved towards works characterized by their free gestuality in which the figures are replaced by numerical and textual signs that recreate torn posters and urban graffiti with enormous delicacy and visual awareness.

Grilo has held both solo and group exhibitions at numerous galleries and institutions in the United States, Latin America, and Europe. These include: the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires; the Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas; the Instituto de Arte Contemporáneo, Lima; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation (CIFO), Miami; the Art Museum of the Americas, Washington D.C.; The Nelson Rockefeller Collection, New York; the Blanton Museum of Art, Austin; the Stedelijk Museum of Art, Amsterdam; the Museo Español de Arte Contemporáneo, Madrid; and the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, among others. Most recently, Grilo's work was shown at the Museum of Modern Art's (MoMA) groundbreaking 2017 exhibition, *Making Space: Women Artists and Postwar Abstraction*.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *Signos*, Galerie Lelong & Co., Paris, France  
*Sarah Grilo and the Urban Unconscious*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
- 2000 Casa de América, Madrid, Spain
- 1990 Fundación San Telmo, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Galería Jacques Martínez, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Galería de Arte Contemporáneo, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1985 Museo Español de Arte Contemporáneo, Madrid, Spain
- 1977 Galería Art, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1976 Galería Ruiz-Castillo, Madrid, Spain
- 1972 Galería Juana Mordó, Madrid, Spain
- 1971 Galería Iolas-Velasco, Marbella, Spain
- 1967 Byron Gallery, New York
- 1963 Instituto de Arte Contemporáneo, Lima, Peru  
Obelisk Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
Paul Bianchini Gallery, New York
- 1961 Galería Bonino, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1958 Galería Bonino, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1957 Pan American Union, Washington D.C.  
Roland de Aenlle Gallery (solo exhibition), New York
- 1956 Museo Municipal, Córdoba, Argentina
- 1955 Galería Krayd, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1953 Galería Krayd, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1952 Galería Viau, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1950 Galería Viau, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1949 Galería Palma, Madrid, Spain
- 1943 Galería Witcomb, Buenos Aires, Argentina

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Grilo / Fernández-Muro: 1962-1984*, Duke House Exhibition Series, The Institute of Fine Arts (IFA), New York University, New York  
*Ana Sacerdote / Carola Zech / Květa Pacovská / Sarah Grilo*, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires  
*Art\_Latin\_America: Against the survey*, Davis Museum at Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts  
*Cinco pintores - José Antonio Fernández-Muro / Sarah Grilo / Miguel Ocampo / Kazuya Sakai / Clorindo Testa*, Galería Roldán Moderno, Buenos Aires
- 2018 *Abstracting Gender*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York  
*The Second Sex (The Estrellita B. Brodsky Collection)*, ANOTHER Space, New York  
*Déjà vu*, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires
- 2017 *40 aniversario. La Colección Arte Siglo XX. 1977-2017*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Alicante, Spain  
*Making Space: Women Artists and Postwar Abstraction*, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York  
*Poéticas del Gesto*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Latinoamericano (MACLA), La Plata, Argentina
- 2016 *Las Líneas de la Mano*, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires
- 2015 *El color de los sueños / Escenas de la monocromía*, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires  
*Versiones de lo real*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Latinoamericano (MACLA), La Plata, Argentina
- 2014 *Déjà vu*, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires  
*Cartas a Sarah*, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
*Múltiples*, Galería Jacques Martínez, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
*ROJO(S)*, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2010 *Imán: Nueva York*, Fundación PROA, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2007 *Sarah Grilo - José Antonio Fernández-Muro // Obras sobre papel*, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
*Buenos Aires. Escenarios de Luis Seoane*, Fundación Luis Seoane, La Coruña, Spain

- 2001 *Past Present Future: Notions of Time in Twentieth-Century Art*, Blanton Museum of Art, Austin
- 1999 *International XX Century Art*, CDS Gallery, New York
- 1995 *Latin American Women Artists 1915-1995*, Travelling exhibition: Milwaukee Art Museum, Wisconsin; Phoenix Art Museum, Arizona; The Denver Art Museum and Museo de las Américas, Colorado; The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.; Center for the Fine Arts, Miami, Florida
- 1994 *Confluencias*, Palacio de Congresos, Zaragoza, Spain
- 1993 *Confluencias: Artistas Iberoamericanos en Europa*, Travelling exhibition: Museo Camón Aznar de Zaragoza, Spain; Sala Consistoria de Logroño, Spain; Galería Rekalde de Bilbao, Spain; Centro de Arte Moderno de Oviedo, Spain
- 1992 *Hecho de Palabras*, Galería Jorge Mara de Madrid, Spain
- 1991 *Pinturas de los 60*, Galería Jacques Martínez de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1989 *The Latin American Presence in United States*, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York; San Diego Museum of Art, California
- 1987 *The Latin American Spirit: art and artists in the United States, 1920-1970*, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York
- 1986 *Más allá del Río de la Plata*, Palacio de Congresos y Exposiciones, Madrid, Spain
- 1984 *Mujeres en el Arte Español*, Centro Cultural Conde Duque, Madrid, Spain
- 1983 *100 Artistes de l'Amérique Latine*, Maison de la culture à Amiens; Centre culturel à Compiègne, France
- 1982 *Droits Socialistes de l'Homme*, Grand Palais, Paris, France
- 1979 *1ª Bienal de Arte Sberaton*, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1978 *Aesthetics of Graffiti*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California
- 1974 *Mujeres Ante el Arte*, Galería Iolas-Velasco, Madrid, Spain
- 1972 *Argentinische Kunst der Gegenwart*, Rheinisches Landesmuseum, Bonn, Germany; Kunsthaus Hamburg, Germany
- 1971 Galería Iolas-Velasco (solo exhibition), Marbella, Spain
- 1970 *Pintura Argentina, 1923-1969*, Travelling Exhibition, Ministerio de Cultura y Educación, Argentina
- 1968 *Expo 68*, San Antonio, Texas  
*I Bienal de Arte Coltejer*, Medellín, Colombia
- 1967 *Latin American Art*, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia
- 1966 *Art of Latin America since Independence*, Travelling Exhibition: Yale University Art Gallery, Connecticut; University of Texas Art Museum, Austin, Texas; San Francisco Museum of Art, California; La Jolla Museum of Art, California; Isaac Delgado Museum of Art, New Orleans, Louisiana  
*Women in Contemporary Art*, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina
- 1965 *Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture*, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois  
*Argentina en el Mundo, Artes Visuales 2*, Instituto Torcuato Di Tella, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1964 *The Emergent Decade*, Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela; Ateneo, Caracas, Venezuela; The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York  
*Latin American Art Today*, Trinity School, New York  
*Painters resident in the USA from the Latin Americas*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Washington D.C.  
*Magnet: Nueva York*, Galería Bonino, New York  
*New Art from Argentina*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Akron Art Museum, Atlanta, Georgia
- 1963 *Arte de América y España*, Madrid, Spain  
*Adquisiciones y Donaciones de Amigos del Museo*, Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela
- 1961 *Latin America: New Departures*, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Massachusetts; Time and Life Building, New York  
Premio Instituto Torcuato Di Tella, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
*9 Painters of Argentina*, Wigder Gallery, Washington D.C.  
VI Bienal de São Paulo, Brazil
- 1960 *Primera Exposición Internacional de Arte Moderno Argentina 1960*, Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires, Argentina; Museo de Arte Moderno de Bahía, Brazil  
*Cinco Pintores*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
*Permanent Collection of Contemporary Art of Latin America*, Pan American Union, Washington D.C.  
*30 Latin American Guest Artists*, Riverside Museum, New York  
Galería Bonino, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 1959 *Colección de Arte Interamericano*, Museo de Bellas Artes Caracas, Venezuela  
*Arte Latinoamericano Contemporáneo*, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

- The United States Collects Pan American Art*, The Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois  
*South American Art Today*, Museum of Fine Art, Dallas, Texas
- 1958 *Pintura Argentina*, Instituto de Arte Contemporáneo de Lima, Perú  
*Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture*, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
 Exposition Universel, Brussels, Belgium
- 1957 *Pintura Panamericana*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1956 XXVIII Venice Biennale, Italy  
*Fourth International Biennial of Contemporary Color Lithography*, Cincinnati Art Museum, Ohio
- 1955 *Exposición Argentina*, National Gallery, Washington D.C.
- 1953 *Grupo de Artistas Modernos*, Galería Viau, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
*Un Siglo de Arte Argentino*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de Buenos Aires, Argentina  
 II Bienal de Sao Paulo, Brazil  
*II International Contemporary Exhibition*, New Delhi, India
- 1952 *Grupo de Artistas Modernos*, Travelling exhibition: Museo de Arte Moderno, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Holland
- 1951 *15 Pintores Argentinos*, Galería Bonino, Buenos Aires

## WORK IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de Buenos Aires.  
 Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía de Madrid.  
 Stedelijk Museum de Amsterdam.  
 Museo Municipal de Buenos Aires.  
 Museo Municipal de Córdoba (Argentina).  
 Museo de Arte de Cartagena (Colombia).  
 Museo de Bellas Artes de Caracas.  
 Instituto de Arte Contemporáneo de Lima (Perú)  
 Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de América Latina de Washington D.C.  
 The Nelson Rockefeller Collection de Nueva York.  
 Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas, Austin (USA)  
 Museo de Arte de Ponce de Puerto Rico.  
 Fundación Coltejer de Medellín (Colombia)  
 Museo Español de Arte Contemporáneo de Madrid.  
 Museo de Arte Abstracto de Cuenca (Spain).  
 Museo de Arte Internacional de Lanzarote.  
 Museo Internacional de la Resistencia Salvador Allende (MIRSA), Santiago de Chile.  
 The Chase Manhattan Bank Art Collection, Nueva York.  
 Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Almería.  
 Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Latinoamericano de La Plata (Argentina).  
 Colección de Arte de la Cancillería Argentina de Buenos Aires.  
 Patrimonio Nacional Español.  
 Estrellita B. Brodsky Collection, Nueva York.  
 Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), Nueva York.  
 Colección Hochschild, Perú.  
 OAS Art Museum of the Americas (AMA), Washington D.C.  
 Dallas Museum of Art, Texas.  
 The Davis Museum at Wellesley College, Massachusetts.  
 Museo de Artes Plásticas Eduardo Sívori, Buenos Aires.  
 Colección Banco Santander, Madrid.  
 Colección Circa XX Pilar Citoler, Madrid.

## SELECTED PRESS

Squirru, Rafael. "Pintura: A propósito del grupo de pintores modernos, Aebi, Hlito, Maldonado, Ocampo, Grilo, Fernández Muro." *Criterio* (Buenos Aires), vol.25, no. 1167, July, 1952, p. 499-500

Ashton, Dore. "Art, Gallery Pot Pourri - Spring Exhibition at City Center Offers Work by 56, Many Making Debuts", *New York Times*, April 5, 1957

Washburn, Gordon Bailey. *The 1958 Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting and Sculpture*. Exh. cat., Department of Fine Arts, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, 1958

Catlin, Stanton L. "New Vistas in Latin American Art," *Art in America*, Issue #3, 1959, p. 27

Squirru, Rafael. *Primera Exposición Internacional de Arte Moderno Argentina 1960*. Exh. cat., Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires, 1960

Romero Brest, Jorge. "[Los cinco pintores que me honro en presentar...]." In *F-Muro, Grilo, Ocampo, Sakai, Testa*. Exh. cat., Buenos Aires: Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, 1960

van der Marck, Jan and Foley, Suzanne. "Foreword", *New Art of Argentina*. Exh. cat., Buenos Aires: Instituto Torcuato Di Tella, 1964

Canaday, John. "Art: Argentina's Blue Plate Special", *The New York Times*, September 9, 1964

Bayón, Damián Carlos. "Los artistas latinoamericanos frente a las actuales tendencias plásticas." *Cuadernos del Congreso por la Libertad de la Cultura* (Paris), no. 100, September 1965, p. 71-76

Messer, Thomas M. *The Emergent Decade: Latin American Painters and Painting in the 1960s*. Exh. cat., New York: The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, 1966

Messer, Thomas M. "Introduction", *The Emergent Decade: Latin American Painters and Painting in the 1960s*, xiii-xv. Exh. cat., New York: The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, 1966

Catlin, Stanton L. and Grieder, Terence "Period V: 1945-1965", *Art of Latin America since Independence*. Exh. cat., The Yale University Art Gallery and The University of Texas Art Museum, 1966, p.176-177

Canaday, John. "Art: 'Snapshots' by Robert Harvey", *New York Times*, May 13, 1967

Moreno Galván, José María. "Galería Ruiz-Castillo. PINTURA DE SARAH GRILO" *Triunfo* (Madrid), ARTE, 1974, p. 53-55

Angel, Félix. "The Latin American Presence", *The Latin American Spirit: Art and Artists in the United States, 1920-1970*. Exh. cat., The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, 1988, p. 252-254

Corredor-Matheos, José. "Artistas Latinoamericanos. Ante, Desde, En, Hacia, Por Europa". *Confluencias. Primera Exposición de Artistas Iberoamericanos en Europa*. Exh. cat., Centro de Exposiciones y Congresos / Museo Camón Aznar, Zaragoza, 1991.

Biller, Geraldine P. *Latin American Women Artists 1915-1995*. Exh. cat., Milwaukee Art Museum, 1995, p. 122-123

Puerto, Cecilia. "The Bibliography", *Latin American Women Artists, Kablo and Look Who Else: A Selective, Annotated Bibliography*, 1996, p. 8