



*Latin American Artists Take Center Stage at the 2023 Armory Show*  
Frederic Magazine, September 2023  
(author: Martha Moskowitz)  
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# FREDERIC

## Latin American Artists Take Center Stage at the 2023 Armory Show

See how they're resurrecting—and reinterpreting—ancestral motifs for the 21st century.

WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY [Martha Moskowitz](#)  
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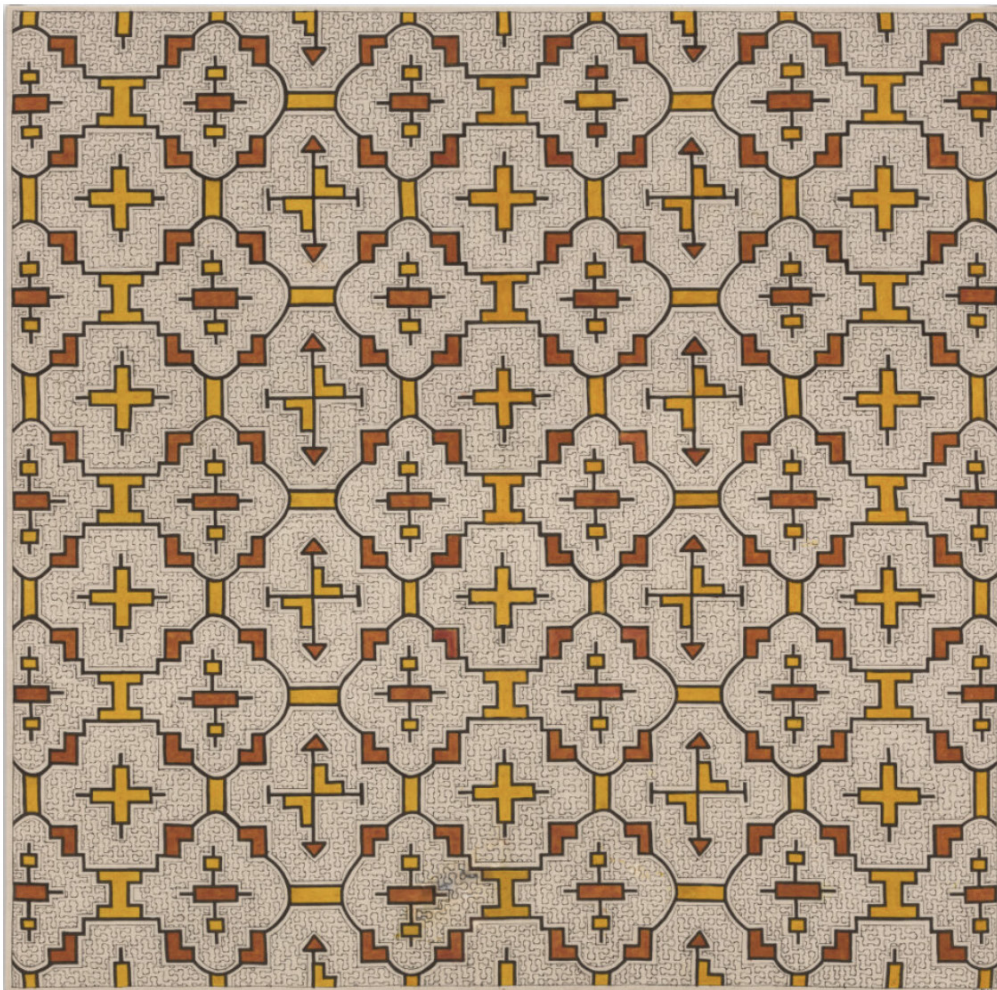


**T**he Armory Show took us south of the border with a captivating array of works from artists engaging with their native motifs. From textiles to ceramics, these countries' own distinct and diverse artistic languages date back to long before Spanish and Portuguese colonizers arrived in the 15th century; today, the region's artists continue to draw on those rich cultural histories to keep the thread of ancient arts alive through a deep, nourished relationship with craft and tradition.

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At this year's show, there was a visible increase in the presence of talent from Chile to Mexico, including a significant number of indigenous artists re-engaging with their ancestral techniques and motifs through contemporary mediums. On exhibiting artist Sara Flores, C L E A R I N G Gallery Director John Utterson says the recent recognition "is richly deserved and a testament to the sophistication, rigor, and sheer show-stopping beauty of her work." From Flores's native Kené created with locally produced material to Seba Calfuqueo's photographic critique of the colonization of Chile, artists are finding platforms to advocate for people long ago relegated to the sidelines of art history.

Read on to discover just a few highlights from this year's show.



Sara Flores, *Untitled (Ani Bero 1, 2023)*, 2023



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## Sara Flores (Peruvian, b. 1950)

Sara Flores, an indigenous Shipibo-Conibo artist native to the Ucayali region of the Peruvian Amazon, draws on her native art of Kené. The geometric design maps their cosmology and spirituality beliefs and grounds their beliefs through a deep respect for the environment. Kené also serve as symbolic representations of emotion and are used as a tool for expression and communication within the community.

*Presented by Clearing Gallery in collaboration with the Shipibo Conibo Center in Harlem.*