



297 NE 67 Street, Miami, FL 33138
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Locust Projects presents
MAIN GALLERY:
Tara Long: *LA ESQUINITA*

Exhibition Dates:
November 15, 2025 –
January 17, 2026

Delight in Mire: Miami Art Week
Meet the Artist Reception:
Saturday, December 6 | 7-10pm
FREE and open to the public

Related Events
Friday, November 14 | 6-10pm
Delight & Devour Annual Benefit
Dinner Honoring Sarah Arison
Ticketed event

Tuesday, December 2 | 10am-12pm
Miami Art Week Press Preview
Cafecitos y Dulces with the Artist

Saturday, December 13 | 12-5pm
Annual Holiday Makers Mart +
Little Haiti/Little River Art Days
FREE and open to the public

Public Hours:
Tuesday to Saturday | 11am-5pm

Special Extended Hours
Speakeasy Open until midnight
with pop-up performances
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414-313-6434

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LA ESQUINITA

A major new installation by Tara Long



Tara Long: *LA ESQUINITA*. Exterior of Locust Projects, facade mural painted by Serge Touissant, photo by Pedro Wazzan.

[Miami, FL] Locust Projects presents *LA ESQUINITA (Little Corner)*, premiering the first major solo show by Miami artist and musician Tara Long. In an all-encompassing installation, Long transforms Locust Projects' exterior and lobby into a quirky and surreal "Sweets & Souvenirs" shop filled with more than 500 tempting mini sculptures for sale.

The exhibition premieres at Locust Projects major annual fundraiser on Friday, November 14 at the Delight & Devour Annual Benefit Dinner honoring Sarah Arison and celebrating Tara Long's first major solo show premiere. The exhibition opens to the public on Saturday, November 15 and is the featured Miami Art Week exhibition with Delight in the Mire: A Miami Art Week Meet the Artist Party and Performance on Saturday, Dec 6 | 7-10pm.

As part of Locust Projects' commitment to supporting risk-taking and commissioning experimental new art and ideas, it has turned its space over—inside and out—to emerging Miami-based artist and performer, Tara Long, and her all-encompassing creative vision.



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Part corner store, part surreal dream, *LA ESQUINITA* transforms Locust Projects into a sugar-coated parable about power, pleasure, and decay. From the building's colorful façade to the towering, crumbling cake inside, Miami-born artist Tara Long exposes the hidden costs of sweetness—how sugar built this place, drained its swamps, shapes our bodies, our appetites, and our myths.

Visitors move through three acts produced by the artist in collaboration with a community of artists, musicians, and performers: the seductive storefront of tempting confections; the collapsing "cake hall," where performance and sound unravel the fantasy; and the secret speakeasy where nature, and truth, begin to return. What starts as a bodega, evolves into a stage, leading to a confession booth, and finally, a swamp reclaiming its ground.

Long's world fuses Miami's candy-colored surfaces with its buried histories, linking the exploitation of land to the conditioning of desire. *LA ESQUINITA* asks: when indulgence becomes survival, what does it cost to stay sweet?

Long's Locust Projects exhibition, her first major solo show, was selected from 650 open call applications for the Main Gallery by a review panel including Juan Roselione-Valadez, Director of the Rubell Museum and past exhibiting artists Rafael Domenech (2023) and Rosario Marquardt of R+R (2000).

The artist wishes to thank Lucia Aquino; David Sinopoli; Tom Mickelson; Freddy Jouwayed; Brett Potter; HoxxoH Studio; Serge Toussaint; Locust Projects and their team: Lorie Mertes, Tony Kapel, Sid Wolf, Munisha Underhill, Andrew McLees; Actors Playhouse; Bakehouse Art Complex; Things Lab; Katrina Cristobal; Lauren Shapiro; Young Arts; Le Basque; Gabriela Aschmann; Sofia Alcala; Monica Uszerowicz; Natalia Zuluaga; Skylar Edisis; Caterina Haddad; Thom Wheeler Castillo; Casey Zap; Cameron Nutella; Yamil Rodriguez; nilor studio; and Locust Projects Benefit Dinner Young Arts participants: Hattie Mae Williams (Court Jester); Rodrigo Rodriguez, Stephane Clement, Dani F Amaro (Musicians).

***LA ESQUINITA* is commissioned by Locust Projects and curated by Executive Director Lorie Mertes. It is made possible with support from Funding Arts Network.**



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ABOUT THE ARTIST

Tara Long is a Miami-born and based multidisciplinary artist whose work spans performance, installation, video, digital interactive projects, software development, and oil painting. Rooted in her exploration of self-identity as a response to early orphanhood trauma, Long creates various personas to magnify facets of her identity through which she navigates captivating narratives of resilience, mythology, transcendence, and connection. Her work has been featured at the Museum of Modern Art PS1, Pérez Art Museum Miami, Institute of Contemporary Art Miami, Oolite Arts, and Spinello Projects. She is also known for her avant-garde music project and alter-ego, Poorgrrrl, and longstanding contributions to the Ill Points Music Festival, and other collaborative projects including: Divine

Nymphs, 229, √iole+a§, #IHAITIBASEL, TvvinHaus LLC, JIT REAL, and NRM Gallery in NYC. Long received her BFA from Parsons School of Design in New York in 2003 and her MFA from the University of Hartford. She is currently a resident artist at the Bakehouse Art Complex.

Image: Tara Long, photo courtesy of the artist.

ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national, and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.

Locust Projects Receives Major Support from: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust; the State of Florida through the Division of Arts and Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts; Dede and Robert Moss; Ruth Foundation for the Arts; VIA Art Fund; Diane and Werner Grob; Susan and Richard Arregui; Wege Foundation; Funding Arts Network; Cowles Foundation, Kirk Foundation; and the INCUBATORS.



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