



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | March 27, 2024

**Baltimore, MD** – Nonprofit **Make Studio**, dedicated to amplifying the exceptional artistry of neurodivergent, disabled, and self-taught artists, is excited to announce a dual exhibition opening soon:

***"PRIMO: A trio of artistic cousins show how we are better together."***

at Art Enables April 27 – June 8, 2024 | at Make Studio May 4 – June 15, 2024

**Make Studio, Art Enables** (Washington, DC), and **Riera Studio / Art Brut Project Cuba** (Havana, Cuba) are proud to present "PRIMO," a two-site exhibition that brings together work by artists from all three progressive art studios\*. On view at both Art Enables and Make Studio, this exhibition marks the Riera Studio artists' U.S. debut. We invoke the word "primo" as both English slang for "excellent" and the Spanish word for "cousin." The works on view display a wide range of artistic visions, while stylistic and thematic similarities reveal a meaningful kinship. Groupings of works sharing recognizable threads—e.g., "warm glow", "little ones in a big crowd", "artifacts from the future"—are gathered together in a conversation that spans borders. The artworks speak to one other and are also part of a larger discourse, that of the rich history of self-taught and other artistry described as "outsider". While the genre definitions have evolved over time, the heart of what they define persists— self-taught artists who express themselves on the margin of the established cultural mainstream. All three participating studios celebrate these unique perspectives, their crucial place in the larger arts landscape, and the crucial connectivity that is amplified when we are together.

**at Art Enables April 27 – June 8, 2024**

2204 Rhode Island Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20018

Gallery hours: Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. & by appt.

[art-enables.org](http://art-enables.org)

**at Make Studio May 4 – June 15, 2024**

3326 Keswick Rd. Baltimore, MD 21211

Gallery hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. & by appt.

Additional hours will be announced on social media.

[make-studio.org](http://make-studio.org)

**Opening receptions:** April 27 at Art Enables, 5 – 7 p.m. | May 4 at Make Studio, 5 – 7 p.m.

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Images left to right: PRIMO logo by Stefan Bauschmid, artwork by Rosa Maria Barrios Hernández (Riera Studio)

About the exhibiting studios:

*\* A progressive art studio is a fine arts milieu in which people with disabilities can create and maintain meaningful lives in the arts.*

**Make Studio** is a community-based arts center and gallery in Baltimore, MD, envisioning a world of acceptance and inclusion where art opens doors for everyone. Make Studio empowers artists with disabilities to grow as professionals with visibility and voice in their communities. We create opportunities for everyone to connect through art. Make Studio is the only progressive art studio in the Baltimore metro area and currently serves 45 member artists.

**Art Enables** Art Enables is an art studio and gallery dedicated to amplifying the creative careers of artists with disabilities. Guided by the belief that artists with disabilities are vital to a robust arts landscape, Art Enables provides a platform for resident artists to develop and exhibit their work, creating space for their unique perspectives while dismantling stereotypes and celebrating inclusion. We help create opportunities for artists with disabilities to make, market, and earn income from their original and compelling artwork while building crucial skills, relationships, and experiences important to emerging and established artists.

**RIERA Studio** and **Art Brut Project Cuba** promote and support singular art expressions that share a stylistic distance from the existing visual culture based on academic or intellectual training, and whose makers have no knowledge of intellectual artistic issues. Art made within this context usually gathered under the related categories of Art Brut and Outsider Art - each one with its own conceptual characteristics but with boundaries in between. Art Brut Project Cuba is the only Cuban art project specializing in these forms of visual art. Its main task is the acknowledgment and promotion of the Cuban creators of Art Brut and Outsider Art and their artwork in the national and international scenes.  
rierastudioart.com

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