

MIT List Visual Arts Center

Jorge Pardo

MEDIUM Installation, sculpture

NATIONALITY American

LIFE DATES Havana, Cuba 1963 -

Born in Havana, Cuba in 1963, Jorge Pardo immigrated to the United States at the age of six. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1988 at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.

Operating within a mode that confuses the domains of art, design, installation, and sculpture, Pardo rejects the traditional notion of sculpture as an object standing apart from the outside world. Instead, drawing his ideas from various art historical sources, he attempts to fuse his site-specific works with their surrounding context as well as the viewer's space. His installation of *Pier*, 1997 on a lake in Münster, Germany, muddles the boundaries of art and life, requiring the viewer to decide which is which. His design for the bookshop and reading room at the Dia Center for the Arts in New York transformed the previous bleak space into a bright installation of various colored ceramic tiles and mod furniture. In 1994, he began a project with the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles in which his carefully designed 1800-square-foot Mount Washington house functioned as both his own private residence as well as a public extension of the museum's permanent collection exhibition space. In addition, Pardo has designed and produced furniture, lamps, wallpaper, printed fabrics, a sailboat, and artist's books.

Pardo's work has been featured in a number of national and international solo exhibitions including the Fundacio La Caixa, Barcelona; Le Consortium, Dijon, France; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. He has also been included in many group exhibitions at venues including Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, New York; Dia Center for the Arts, New York; Whitechapel Art Gallery, London; and the Museum of Modern Art, New York. His grants and awards include the Smithsonian American Art Museum's Lucelia Award and a grant from the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation. Jorge Pardo lives and works in Los Angeles.

