

\$250mn Anne Bass collection for auction and Jeff Koons shoots for the moon Plus: Liste supports Ukrainian galleries; South South launches \$40,000 fund; sustainability leads London art conference

Melanie Gerlis March 30, 2022



A still from Joiri Minaya's film, 'Siboney' (2014)

The South South platform, which prioritizes art from the Global South regions of Africa, Latin America and Asia, has launched a \$40,000 fund for new media works for its latest selling exhibition, called Veza 02. Its first recipient is El Museo del Barrio, a New York institution for the often-overlooked Latino artists. The museum has bought two films with its funds: one that addresses the erosion of civil liberties by the high-profile Cuban-American artist Coco Fusco — The Empty Plaza/ La Plaza Vacia (2012, through Alexander Gray Associates) — and a work by the 32-year-old, Dominican-American artist Joiri Minaya (Siboney, 2014, Embajada gallery).

The content and ownership of both editions have been transferred to the museum via South South's technology partner, Niio Art, and use a non-fungible token (NFT). "There is a complete disconnect between art and the blockchain world, but look what it can do for a museum that wants to buy a video work. For me, this is what is meaningful about NFTs, and is largely ignored by the crypto traders," says Liza Essers, founder of South South and owner of the South Africa headquartered Goodman Gallery.

Veza 02 runs from March 31-April 10 and will include video works from the coinciding 18th edition of São Paulo's SP-Arte fair (April 6-10).