

Rafael Vargas-Suarez (a.k.a. Vargas-Suarez Universal)

1972, born in Mexico City, raised near NASA in Houston,
lives in New York, and works anywhere

Education

1991-1996 The University of Texas at Austin. studied Astronomy and Art History
1999-2000 The Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Mini-Med School Program,
New York University, New York

Selected Individual Exhibitions

2008 *Virus Maximus Americanus* GE Galeria, Monterrey (cat.)

2007 *Next Green Sphere* g-module, Paris
Space Station: San Sebastian Galeria Carlos Irizarry, San Juan de Puerto Rico

2006 *A New Kind of Science* Karpio+Facchini Gallery, Miami

2005 *Space Station: Tenochtitlan* Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico D.F. (cat.)

2004 *Wall Drawing Commission & Study Drawings* LibertyHealth Foundation, Jersey City
Event Horizon g-module, Paris

2003 *American Virus* Jersey City Museum, Jersey City (brochure)
Outer (Negative Space), obras recientes Galeria Ramis Barquet, Monterrey
Audio-Drawings & New Works on Paper Galeria Carlos Irizarry, San Juan de Puerto Rico
Art Unknown: Programa Comisariado de Proyectos Individuales Thomas Erben Gallery, ARCO '03 Feria
Internacional de Arte Contemporaneo, Parque Ferial Juan Carlos I, Madrid (cat.)
Proper Motion (Pictures) The Hudson River Museum of Westchester, Yonkers

2002 *Stardust, new wall drawings* Thomas Erben Gallery, New York
Space Stations and Blueprints g-module, Paris
Vargas-Suarez Universal: Space Stations Lobby Gallery, Brooklyn Public Library,
Brooklyn. organized by d.u.m.b.o. arts center, Brooklyn

2000 *The Fourth Annual d.u.m.b.o. Art Under the Bridge Festival, Installations: Vargas-Suarez Universal*
Metropolitan Transit Authority, New York City Transit, York St. Subway Station. organized by d.u.m.b.o.
arts center, Brooklyn
Domestic Model of a Wormhole (outdoor project), P.S. 122 Gallery, organized by Archibald Arts, New York
American Virus 288 Elizabeth Street, New York

1998 *Trahere Naturalis & Virus 76* Varick, New York
A Brief Documentation of Black Holes and Blue Holes Holland Tunnel Art Projects, Brooklyn
Unknown (Sex Drive) Obsolete Studios, Queens
Texas Landscape Atelier von David Medalla, Berliner Kunster Program des Deutschen Akademischen
Austauschdienst (DAAD), Berlin

1995 *Vargas-Suarez Universal* Apple Computer Corp., Austin

Discography (collaborative)

2003 Vargas-Suarez Universal & DJ Chucky (CD): Any Number of Notes. Tenet Records, San Juan
2001 V-SU, Wilcox & Haynes (CD): Space Station: Dystopia. WishWash Communications, Austin
2000 V-SU, Wilcox & Haynes (CD): Mental Blueprints. WishWash Communications, Austin
1999 Lefty (CD, LP): Everybody Loves a Hero. WishWash Communications, Austin

Selected Group Exhibitions

2008 *Workspace Program 2007-08* Dieu Donne Papermill, Inc., New York (cat.)
Abbey Mural Workshop Fellows Exhibition, National Academy Museum, New York
Claiming Space: Mexican-Americans in U.S. Cities, Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts,
The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) (cat.)
Walls and Gateways vzw Existentie, ACEC, Ghent, Belgium (cat.)
S.O.S. 4.8 Sustainable Art Actions, Centro de Congresos Victor Villegas, Murcia, Spain (cat.)

- ggg.g-salon g-module, Paris
Put Your Flag Where Your Mouth Is St. Paul's Hall, St. Paul's Steiner School, London
- 2007 *The Expanded Painting Show*, M*A*S*H*, Cotelston Advisors, Miami
Oliver Lutz, Vargas-Suarez Universal, Space Other, Boston
Brave New World Solar, East Hampton, NY (cat.)
Suncom Art Nites Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico, San Juan
Per Square Foot Dieu Donne Papermill Inc., New York (cat.)
della Pittura Digitalis: On Painting and the Digital Moment Galerie Caprice Horn, Berlin
Double-edged Abstraction g-module, Paris
2nd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art: Special Projects: We Are Your Future
 Winzavod Contemporary Art Centre, Moscow (cat.)
Artists Books: Transgression/Excess Space Other, Boston
III Certamen Internacional De Pintura De Castellón Fundacion Astroc, Madrid (cat.)
Mixed Signals Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, Inc., New York
- 2006 *III Certamen Internacional De Pintura De Castellón* El Museo de Bellas Artes de Castellón, Spain (cat.)
Good Morning City Noise!!! Sound Art Project Galeri Soemardja, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia
Radicales Libres GE Galeria, Monterrey, Mexico (cat.)
What War? White Box, New York
Show Off g-module, Espace Pierre Cardin, Paris (cat.)
Year _06, g-module, Mary Ward House, London
Dieu Donné Papermill Inc., New York (cat.)
Pure Form, Solar, East Hampton, NY
The Sun in Uranus, Offspace Projects, London
States of Anxiety Punto Gris, CIRCA 06, San Juan de Puerto Rico
Group Exhibition d.u.m.b.o. arts center, Brooklyn
- 2005 *My Mother the Nazi* the:artist:network, New York
Future Quake g-module, FIAC, Paris (cat.)
Barrocos & Neobarrocos (El Infierno de lo Bello) DA2 (Domus Artium 2002), Fundacion Salamanca
 Ciudad de Cultura, Palacio de Abrantes, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain (cat.)
The Line Between Life and Death Karpio+Facchini Gallery, Miami
Out of Bounds Glyndor Gallery, Wave Hill, Bronx, NY (cat.)
Happy Bithday To Me g-module, Paris
 Jacob Karpio Galeria, ARCO '05, Madrid (cat.)
- 2004 *Art Basel Miami Beach: The International Art Show* Jacob Karpio Galeria, Miami Beach (cat.)
31 Edition Foire Internationale d'Art Contemporain g-module, Paris expo-Porte de Versailles, Paris (cat.)
Eighth Annual d.u.m.b.o. Art Under the Bridge Festival, Music: Experimental and Avant Garde Sound,
 The Soundbox, organized by d.u.m.b.o. arts center, Brooklyn
a small look at GIGANTICISM Gigantic Art Space, New York (cat.)
Topologies Solar, East Hampton, NY
Small Drawings by Big People Galeria Carlos Irizarry, San Juan de Puerto Rico
Mexico Arte Contemporaneo Jacob Karpio Galeria, Expo Reforma, Mexico D.F. (cat.)
Momenta Art Benefit White Columns, New York
Cartografia Americana Solar, East Hampton, NY
The Armory Show: The International Fair of New Art Jacob Karpio Galeria, New York
Voces y Visiones: Highlights from El Museo del Barrio's Permanent Collection, Parrish Art Museum,
 Southampton, NY
Art Rotterdam, g-module, Wilhelminakade, Rotterdam
- 2003 *NADA Art Fair* g-module, The Lincoln, Miami Beach
Voces y Visiones: Highlights from El Museo del Barrio's Permanent Collection,
 El Museo del Barrio, New York (cat.)
White Box Benefit James Cohan Gallery, New York
Mexico Illuminated Freedman Gallery, Albright College/Center for the Arts, Reading, Pennsylvania (cat.)
Il Palazzo delle Liberta Palazzo delle Papesse Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena, Italia (cat.)
Ready for War University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal
 Galeria Ramis Barquet, ARCO '03, Madrid
Art Rotterdam g-module, Wilhelminakade, Rotterdam
7 Walls 8 Views Arena, New York

- 2002 *Secret* Gulbenkian Galleries, Royal College of Art, London
Scratch Arena, New York
Save Our Senate Exit Art/The First World, New York
Candela Art + Music Festival Galeria Carlos Irizarry, San Juan
Ballpoint Inklings Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
Deja Vu g-module, Paris
Recent Multiples Projects x 5-Inbox Vol. V 10038 Organization of Independent Artists, New York
Speaking Truths-Inbox Vol. V 10038 Intermedia Arts, Minneapolis
A Special Place Arena, Brooklyn
- 2001 *FFWD>> Miami Contemporary Art: Fair* Arena, Hotel Nash, Miami Beach
Refraction Arts Installations Project The Blue Theater, Austin
Drawings (selected) g-module, Paris
Crossing the Line Queens Museum of Art, New York (cat., CD)
Sthlm Art Fair Arena@Feed, Sollentunamassan AB, Stockholm
Think...1.2.3.Think: Rupert Goldsworthy, Jocelyn Taylor, Vargas-Suarez Universal im niL, Brooklyn (essay)
Emerging Archibald Arts, New York
- 2000 *London Biennale 2000* Fleet Place, London (cat.)
Dona Nelson, Andreij Monastyrkij, Vargas-Suarez Universal, Tom Wood Thomas Erben Gallery, New York
Meat Market Art Fair Arena@Feed, New York
Good Business is the Best Art: Twenty Years of the Artist in the Marketplace Program The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx
S-Files: The Selected Files El Museo del Barrio, New York (cat.)
Lineage d.u.m.b.o. arts center, Brooklyn
Erratic Errand Archibald Arts, New York
Line Arena@Feed, Brooklyn
- 1999 *Artist in the Marketplace: Nineteenth Annual Exhibition* The Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, NY (catalogue)
A Room With a View Sixth@Prince Fine Arts, New York
Linea Nigra-Drawing the Line Star 67, Brooklyn
- 1998 *Fresh Blood: 13 Young Artists* Archibald Arts, New York
Ruido (Noise): Sound Based Art Taller Boricua Gallery, Julia de Burgos Cultural Center, New York
The Calculus of Transfiguration: Meaning Form and Process in Late Twentieth Century Art
 Williamsburg Art & Historical Center, Brooklyn
- 1997 *Young Latino Artists II* Mexic-Arte Museum, Austin
Aberrations ACA Gallery, Austin
- 1996 *Young Latino Artists* Mexic-Arte Museum, Austin

Selected Collections

Ainsworth Collection, Sydney, Australia
 Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland
 Boelsche Collection, Austin
 Brooklyn Museum of Art Library, New York
 Comunidad Autonoma de la Region de Murcia (CARM), Spain
 DA2 (Domus Artium 2002), Fundacion Salamanca Ciudad de Cultura, Salamanca, Spain
 Dieu Donne Papermill, Inc. Archives, New York
 El Museo del Barrio, New York (commission)
 LibertyHealth Foundation, Jersey City (commission)
 Jersey City Museum, Jersey City
 Mexic-Arte Museum, Austin
 The Museum of Modern Art, New York
 Palazzo delle Papesse Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena, Italy
 Queens Museum of Art, New York
 Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art, Providence
 Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
 Winzavod Contemporary Art Centre, Moscow, Russian Federation

Lectures

2007 Louisiana ArtWorks, New Orleans
2003 CalArts Visiting Artist program, California Institute for the Arts, Valencia
Visiting Lecturer, Escuela de Artes Plasticas, San Juan
2002 Department of Art History, Rhode Island School of Design
2000 Lehman College, CUNY, Department of Art History, Bronx
Association of Hispanic Artists, Guggenheim Museum, New York

Selected Bibliography

- Angeline, John. "Ruido, Taller Boricua, New York" *Art Nexus*. No.32 (May-July 1999). 117, Ill.
----- "The 'S'/Selected Files, El Museo del Barrio, New York, NY" *Art Nexus*, No. 38. (Nov. 2000-
Jan. 2001):109, 110
Aranda-Alvarado, Rocio. "Vargas-Suarez Universal" *Bomb Magazine*, No. 90. (Winter 2004/05) No. 90.
p.32-39, Ill.
-----"Vargas-Suarez Universal" (exhibition brochure), Jersey City Museum, Jersey City, NJ,
2003
-----"Integrating the Museum:Contemporary Latino Art in Context" paper presented at "The
Interpretation and Representation of Latino Cultures: Research and Museums", Smithsonian Center for
Latino Initiatives, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, Nov. 20-23. 2002.
Barragan, Paco, Miguel Angel Muret, Martin Herbert, Javier Panera and the artists. "II Certamen Internacional de
Pintura Expandida Castellon" (exhibition catalogue), Diputacio Provincial de Castello, Castellon, 2007 ISBN:
978-84-96372-32-0. pp. 60-61, Ill.
Bischoff, Dan. "Inner Space: Jersey City Museum Muralist Draws Inspiration from the Heavens Above"
The Star-Ledger, Friday Sept. 19, 2003.
Chambers, Christopher. "A Twentieth Street Odyssey" *New York Arts Magazine*, Oct.-Nov. , 2002 (web)
Cotter, Holland. "Line", *The New York Times*, May 12, 2000. p. E36
----- . "Picking Out Distinctive Voices in a Pluralistic Chorus" *The New York Times*, August
18, 2000. p. E31
----- . "Think...123," *Art Guide*, *The New York Times*, Friday, February 2, 2001. p. E38
Cullen, Deborah and Yasmin Ramirez. "Cartographies: Notes from the War Years" and "Curatorial
Statement" in *The S-Files* (exhibition catalogue), El Museo del barrio, New York, 2000, pp.3,4,6,7,33,36, Ill.
Droitcur, Brian, Jonathan Goodman, Fernando Castro Florez, the artists. "We Are Yor Future __ _
Special Project
for the Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art" (exhibition catalogue), John Isaacs Books, Art Star Books,
Beijing, People's Republic of China, 2007 ISBN: 0-9772971-2-8. pp. 83,118-119, 138, 149, Ill.
Fusi, Lorenzo. "Il Palazzo delle Liberta" (exhibition catalogue), Palazzo delle Papesse Centro Arte
Contemporanea per l'edizione: Gli Ori Prato-Siena, 2003 ISBN: 88-7336-077-7. pp.30, 34,41,54,55,158-161,
258,259,292,293, Ill.
Genocchio, Benjamin. "Treasures in the Attic" *The New York Times*, Sunday Sept. 7, 2003
----- "A View from Outer Space? No, It's Just of Jersey City", *The New York Times*,
Sunday December 28, 2003.p. NJ9
-----"Bringing the Outdoors Inside and Hanging It on the Walls", *The New York Times*, *Art*
Review, March 20, 2005. p. 17
Goddard, Donald. "Vargas-Suarez Universal" *New York Art World* Oct. 2002 (web)
Herrera, Adriana. "Vargas-Suarez Universal: Una Nueva Clase de Arte" *Nuevo Herald* (Miami, FL), May 14,
2006, P. 8D
Helguera, Pablo. "Vargas-Suarez Universal, Thomas Erben Gallery" *ArtNexus*, No. 48. (Volume 2 Year
2003): 133, 134, Ill.
Johnson Ken. "Andreij Monastyrskij, Dona Nelson, Vargas-Suarez Universal, Tom Wood" *The New York*
Times, July 14, 2000. p. E30
Landes, Jennifer. "Scary New World" *Eat Hampton Star*, Nov. 8, 2007.
La Rocco, Ben. "Out of Bounds", *The Brooklyn Rail*, *Art*, May, 2005.
Levin, Kim. "Vargas-Suarez Universal" *Village Voice*. No. 43 Vol. XLVII Oct. 23-29, 2002. p. 99
Lien, Fu Chia-Wen. "Poetics of Landscape : Out of Bounds and in Bounds" *NY Arts Magazine* (n° 7/8 July,
2005)
Molok, Nicolai. "2 moscow biennale of contemporary art special projects" (exhibition catalogue), Moscow
Biennale Art Foundation, *Art Chronika*, Moscow, Russian Federation, 2007 ISBN 5-902996-04-X. pp. 142-
145.
Ill.

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- Palapa-Quijas, Fabiola. "Fusiona artista astronomia e historia del arte para conquistar los muros del Carrillo Gil" La Jornada, July 12, 2005. Ill.
- Panera Cuevas, F. Javier, Paco Barragan and Omar Pascual-Castillo. "Barrocos y Neobarrocos: El Infierno de lo bello" and "Rizar el Rizo" (exhibition catalogue), Fundacion Salamanca Ciudad de Cultura, Salamanca, 2005 ISBN: 84934558-6-5. pp. 29, 72, 256, Ill.
- Pascual-Castillo, Omar. "Fast Four-Footed Animal (Or... some notes and ideas on contemporary art originating in or circulating about-and for- Mexico)" art.es international contemporary art, No. 6-7 (February 2005): p. 35-44, Ill.
- Rodriguez, Jorge. "En SunCom Art Nites libros artesanales de Rafael Vargas-Suarez Universal", El Vocero de Puerto Rico, Escenarios, October 18, 2007. Ill.
- Sirmans, Franklin. "The S-Files" Time Out New York No. 255 (Aug. 10-17, 2000): 61.
- Universal, Vargas-Suarez, Scott Wilcox and Eliot Haynes, "Blueprints: Sound Recordings of Experimental Drawings" Leonardo, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA Vol.34 No. 4 (2001) p. 349-352, Ill.
- Velasquez De Leon, Mauricio. "#6 Artistas Emergentes En El Bronx" El Diario, July 22, 1999. p. 24, Ill.
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- Wilson, Michael. "First Take, New Art, New Artists: A Special Report, Michael Wilson on Vargas-Suarez Universal" Artforum International (Jan. 2003) p. 127, ill.
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