

# Diario Las Américas

## Tania Bruguera: “Art is fundamental to the creation of civic literacy in Cuba”

The Hannah Arendt International Institute of Artivism already raised 85 % of the financing it needs for its first year.

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### MIAMI. –Editorial Office

“The [Hannah Arendt International Institute of Artivism](#) (INSTAR) will be a space for citizens to exercise their rights, where each Cuban can express their ideas and give their vision for the island that we are building,” explained artist Tania Bruguera at the beginning of March when she launched the INSTAR Kickstarter campaign. This Wednesday, according to a press release emitted by the Institute, they have already raised 85% of the financing that is necessary for their first year with more than 600 founders and sponsors.

Recognized international artists like Marina Abramovic, Francis Alys, Pablo Helguera, Martha Wilson, Jeanne van Heeswijk, Thomas Hirschorn, Isaac Julien, Shirin Neshat, Regina José Galindo, Maja Bajevic, Pedro Reyes, e-flux platform, and Jonas Stall with the New World Summit, have explicitly supported INSTAR. The Cuban artists Tomás Sánchez, Ezequiel Suárez, Sandra Ceballos y Luis Eligio Omni, the curator Gerardo Mosquera and the academics, Armando Chaguaceda, Rafael Rojas y Pedro Campos, amongst others, have also backed INSTAR.

Tania Bruguera has reiterated that the Hannah Arendt International Institute of Artivism “will be a space of collaboration between art and activism with the intent of participating in political, economic and social change that is redefining Cuba”.

“Art is a fundamental tool for creating massive civic literacy in Cuba. Through art we can process socially painful situations, it’s a space from where the reality that we want can be projected, it’s a very health way of better understanding who we are and what we want to be,” adds the artist.

The idea of the Institute emerges after repressive events that occurred when she tried to enact the performance *El Susurro de Tatlin* (Tatlin’s Whisper) in La Plaza de la Revolución (Revolution Plaza). In that moment the strong arm of the regime stopped her. Bruguera was detained and her passport was confiscated for eight months. They accused her of disrupting public order, charges that were finally dismissed.

Official Outlets:

INSTAR: <http://www.artivism.institute>

Supporter Videos: <http://www.artivism.institute/supporters/>

Facebook Page: #YoTambienExijo: <http://www.facebook.com/YoTambienExijo>

TWITTER: @yotambienexijo

Translated by Lissette Olivares