Poletti Fine Art

**\*Kcho** b. 1970 is a contemporary Cuban artist working in sculpture and mixed-media. Born Alexis Leiva Machado in 1970 in Isla de la Juventud, Cuba, Kcho grew up near the ocean surrounded by the driftwood, fishing nets, and propellers scattered across beaches which now figure into his imagery. Throughout much of his career, you can find depictions of boats and boat-like forms using recycled materials, like bottles and lumber salvaged from docks, as inspired by his childhood. The artist’s works reference’s figures from traditional Cuban folk icons meant to honor the dead, bringing a spiritual and mournful perspective to his art. Some of Kcho’s most notable works include *Coluna Infinita*, *Las Playas Infinitas*, and *El Camino de la Nostalgia*. He went on to earn his BA in fine arts from the National School of Fine Arts in Havana. Winner of the Grand Prize at South Korea's Kwangju Biennial in 1995, Kcho’s works are in the collections of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, The Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, among others. The artist lives and works in Havana, Cuba.