



CREDITS:

Original idea and concept development:

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Curator: Rina Gitlin

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Short Documentary Production:

"Memorable video creativity"

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Music: Nilo Verano

Engineering and Tree Assemblage:

Alex Pineco

Bench and Bookshelf Assemblage:

Rudi Repenning

ÁMATE

Karla Kantorovich

Curated by: Rina Gitlin

ÁMATE is an immersive art installation inspired by ancestral Mexican Amate paper-making techniques and traditions. A play on words, Ámate refers to the imperative verb that means love yourself in Spanish, and Amate, which comes from the Nahuatl amatl, a bark paper produced in Mexico since pre-Hispanic times. Karla Kantorovich creates a contemporary version of handmade paper works using locally sourced recycled materials. This piece is a reflection on healing through self-love, exploring the transformative power of acceptance, compassion, and connection with nature.



ABOUT KARLA

Karla Kantorovich is a mixed media artist from Mexico City-based in Miami, FL. She works with paintings, textiles, hand-made paper, and assemblages, leaning into the importance of texture and dimensionality to explore renewal. She is inspired by nature and incorporates its textures, hues, and nuances into her work.


Kantorovich received the Ellies Creator Award 2021 from Oolite Arts, leading to her immersive art installation "AMATE" at Piero Atchugarry Gallery in 2022. She also received an Honorable Mention at the XIX Bienal Rufino Tamayo in Mexico City, exhibiting at the Museo Rufino Tamayo and the MACO Museum of Arte Contemporaneo in Oaxaca, Mexico.

She has showcased her work nationally and internationally, including at the XIX International Biennial of Contemporary Art in Florence, the MFA Exhibition at the Frost Art Museum, the Mexican Consulate in Miami, and the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach. Kantorovich holds a Master of Fine Arts from Florida International University.

Actively engaging with the community is of utmost importance to her; she works as a teaching artist aiming to inspire, connect, and provoke meaningful dialogues, embodying the potential for regeneration.



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ABOUT RINA


Rina Gitlin is an independent curator and art historian from Mexico living in Miami. Rina has twenty-four years of experience planning and executing innovative exhibitions, events, and festivals in the United States and Mexico. Recently, Rina has focused on curating various exhibitions of local and emerging artists, raising awareness on social issues like gender violence, migration, and community healing.

She curated and co-created with artist Karla Kantorovich *Ámate* an immersive art installation of a tree made of hand-made paper. Inspired by the Mexican Amate paper, this piece was granted the 2021 Ellies Award and was installed at Piero Atchugarry Gallery in Miami in 2022.

Rina founded RTcurated, a platform that promotes visual artists while supporting the work of various nonprofit organizations. RTcurated organizes art shows and auctions to present works of art and raise funds to donate them to significant social causes. RTcurated is a project that allows her to combine her desire to help and her love for art. Rina holds an MLA in Museum Studies from Harvard Extension School and a BA in Art History from the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City.

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Research documentary of Amate paper making in San Pablito, Mexico.