



MARCIA GROSTEIN

ex·cur·sions

APRIL 20TH - MAY 20TH, 2023

HUTCHINSON MODERN
& CONTEMPORARY



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BIOGRAPHY

Born in São Paulo, Brazil, in 1949 to a Polish father and a Russian mother, Marcia Grostein came on to the New York City art scene in the late 1970s. Inspired by Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, and Conceptual Art, Grostein works in a wide breadth of mediums, including painting, sculpture, photography, public art, video, performance, and installation.

A child of the tumultuous migration and changing geographies of the early 20th century, much of Grostein's work can be understood as a quest of place-making. A Brazilian of Eastern European heritage, a daughter who lost a mother too young, a Jew, an artist, a woman, a New Yorker; rather than allowing herself to be defined by any one identity, she turns to art as a means of self-assertion. She is determined to define a place for herself, and the breadth of her chosen mediums and subjects reflects this ever-moving, never-resting necessary act of self-determination, translating to an oeuvre imbued with movement. The gesture of her hands shaping resin in the swaying lines of her sculptures, and the boisterous colors and forms of her paintings seem to hum with energy. Grostein's oeuvre includes the public art installation series, *Sky Drawings*, which stand in memorial to the deceased, video work of choreographed performances and ruminations on themes of abuse and nostalgia, paintings for children's books, a photographic celebration of cultures with her *Brighton Beach* series, and much more.

A graduate of the Instituto de Arte e Decoração (IADÉ) in São Paulo, she left Brazil in 1969 to attend the Royal College

of Art in London. The unexpected passing of her mother brought her back to Brazil a year later, where she transferred to the Escola Brasil for the remainder of her studies before moving to New York in 1979. Early in her time in the city, she found mentors and established lifelong friendships with other artists active on the scene. It was during the explosive, "anything is possible" era of the NYC art scene of the late '70s and early '80s that Grostein found her footing and began making a name for herself.

Grostein's oeuvre reveals a stark honesty. Perhaps nothing is more indicative of this than the motif of chairs which appear throughout her work, whether in paintings, works on paper or sculpture. Depicted with fluid lines, their edges blurring into one another like phantoms in space, her chairs are symbolic objects of remembrance. They pay homage to the mother she lost, whose favorite Baroque-style chair was left empty upon her passing.

Today, Grostein lives and works in New York City. Her works are included in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museu de arte de São Paulo, MoMA PS1, and the Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro among others. Grostein has exhibited widely, included in the Biennials of Havana, 1984 (curated by Luis Camnitzer) and 1986, Venice, 1988, São Paulo, 1987 (curated by Sheila Leirner) and 1994 (curated by Nelson Aguilar), and Mercosul, 1999 (curated by Fábio Magalhães), as well as exhibitions at Exit Art (2008), PK Shop at Paul Kasmin gallery (2014), and more.

Marcia Grostein ex·cur·sions



EX·CUR·SIONS

ex·cur·sion

(ek-skūr-zhōn)

A short trip taken with the intention of returning to the point of departure

Deviation from a direct, definite, or proper course

Wandering from the usual course.

From the Latin root *excurrere*, meaning to run out, run forth, hasten forward; project, extend

An excursion implies movement, a leisurely detour from the everyday, a change of scenery, a non-linear path. While it thrums with the promise of something new, there is also a sense of eventual return. Embarking on an excursion, a certain adaptability is required to accommodate the unforeseen and unpredictable. In excursions, Marcia Grostein's energy and range from her early career to her recent works is on display as she invites us to enter her world of exploration, revealing an oeuvre, practice, and spirit born from a desire to remain in motion.

A child born of movement; her parents immigrating to Brazil from Eastern Europe; this inclination towards action stems from a need to continuously carve out a place for herself, and takes inspiration from Merce Cunningham, whose "choreography of chance" is

founded on improvisation and a search for new forms of movement. Each work is born of bodily movement, and Grostein tackles each with the simultaneous rigor and freedom of expression required of a dancer. From sculpture to video, from themes of personal loss to celebrations of multiculturalism, this desire is reflected in the mere breadth of her chosen mediums and subjects. "My work is all about intuition ... I am always changing, reworking, and moving".

ex·cur·sion explores the symbolism of the chair as place-maker in Grostein's work. Along with her 1981 painting, *Chairs*, the works included in this exhibition suggest an eventual homecoming. An homage to her mother, whom she lost in her early 20s, the motif of a chair, appearing in multiple mediums, remains salient throughout her career.

Chairs, 1981
Acrylic on canvas
81 1/2 x 52 1/2 in
207 x 133.3 cm

Exhibited:

Special Projects, MoMA PS 1, New York NY, Oct 13 - Dec 18, 1981

New Talent, Bonlow Gallery, New York, NY, 1984

A cor na Arte Brasileira, Museu da Imagem e do Som de São Paulo, São Paulo, 1990

Museu de arte de São Paulo, October - November, 1994; Museu de Arte Moderna Rio de Janeiro, November, 1994- January, 1995



She, 1993

Fiberglass epoxy on steel rod

67 1/2 x 19 in

171.4 x 48.3 cm

Exhibited:

Língua Latina est Regina, Stux Gallery, New York, NY, 1993

Integration-desintegration, Saramenha Gallery, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1993

Instalações Esculturas, Gabinete de Arte Raquel Arnaud, São Paulo, Brazil, 1994

The Wild Form, 20 Years' Survey, Museu de art de São Paulo, October - November, 1994;

Museu de Arte Moderna Rio de Janeiro, November, 1994- January, 1995

Integration Disintegration, Dahn Gallery, New York, NY, 1995

Issey Miyake, Where Fashion Meets Art, New York, NY, 2005

Brazilian Artists, Espasso, New York, NY, 2006

Informed by Function, Lehman College Art Gallery, New York, NY, 2008

Crossing Borders - Bjorn Ressle Gallery, New York, NY, 2009



Good Morning / Bom Dia, 2023
Resin with acrylic paint on aluminum wire
37 x 20 in
94 x 50.8 cm



To Be a Love Story, 1985

Oil on canvas

58 x 70 in

147.3 x 177.8 cm

Exhibited:

Today's Art of Brazil, Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan, 1985

Latin American Artists in New York Since 1970, Archer M. Huntington Gallery, University of Texas at Austin, 1987

The Wild Form, 20 Years' Survey, Museu de arte de São Paulo, October - November, 1994;

Museu de Arte Moderna Rio de Janeiro, November, 1994- January, 1995



Overlooking, 2018



Resin with acrylic paint on aluminum wire
26 x 45 in
66 x 114.3 cm

Untitled, 2017



Resin with acrylic paint on aluminum wire
37 1/2 x 30 in
95.3 x 76.2 cm

Breathe In, Breathe Out, 2023



Omani coral and 10mm flat aluminum wire
10 x 6 1/2 in
25.4 x 16.5 cm

Ocean Horseback, 2023



Omani coral and 10mm flat aluminum wire
5 1/2 x 3 1/2 in
14 x 8.9 cm

Still Moment, 1999–2000
Digital C-print on Fujicolor Crystal Archival Paper
37 x 37 in
94 x 94 cm
Number 5 from an edition of 10 plus 2AP



With You Alone, 1993

Fiberglass epoxy and newspaper on aluminum wire

20 x 7 x 6 in

50.8 x 17.8 x 15.2 cm



Untitled, 1982
Mixed media on paper
48 x 37 1/2 in
121.9 x 95.3 cm



Portable Art, 2018

Vintage lucite, gold plated brass, and 10mm flat aluminum wire

17 x 5 in

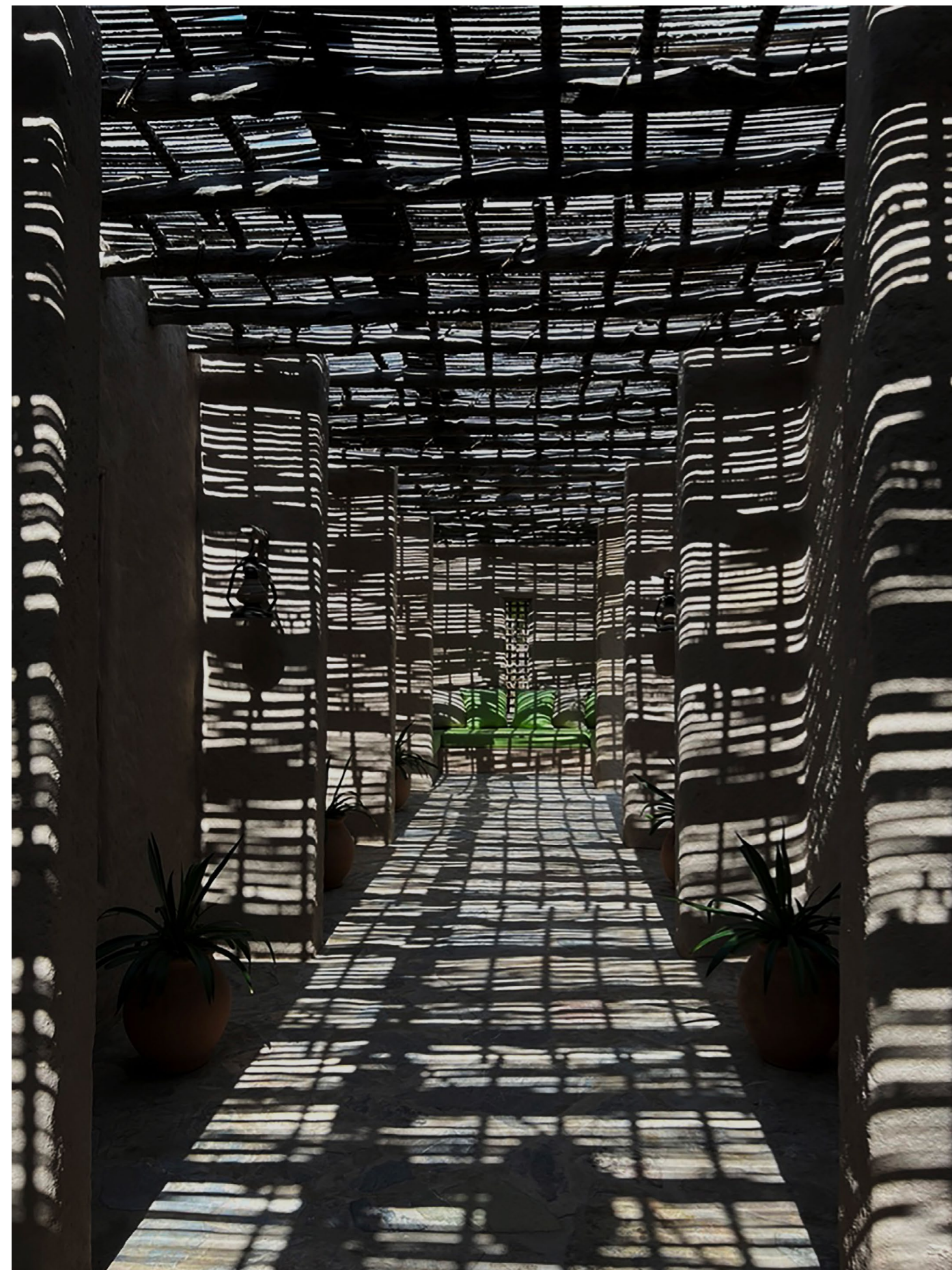
43.2 x 12.7 cm





The New Normal, 2021
Acrylic on paper
22 1/2 x 30 in
57.1 x 76.2 cm

Onward, 2023
Digital C-print on Fujicolor Crystal Archival Paper
36 x 27 in
91.45 x 68.58 cm
Edition of 5 plus 2 AP





Being There, 2005-2023
4K Ultra HD video
Rt: 3:30 loop
2160 x 3840 pixels
Edition of 5 plus 2 AP

Marcia Grostein
ex·cur·sions



MARCIA GROSTEIN

Born in 1949, São Paulo, Brazil
Lives and works in New York, NY

EDUCATION

Escola Brasil, Brazil
Royal Academy of Art, London, United Kingdom

SELECTED SOLO AND GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 *ex•cur•sions*, Hutchinson Modern & Contemporary, New York, NY
2021 *New Room*, FAMA Museum, Itu, São Paulo, Brazil
2019 The Buhl Collection, public art, Peconic Landing Sculpture Garden, Greenport, NY
2019 *Brighton Beach Project*, National Arts Club (NAC), New York, NY
2019 *Luce del Pensiero*, Progetto Guzzini and Lucrezia de Domizio Durini, Milano, Italy
2018 *Desver a Arte*, Kogan Amaro Gallery, São Paulo, Brazil
2018 *The Three Dimensional in the Collection of Marcos Amaro*, Marcos Amaro Foundation, São Paulo, Brazil
2017 *Still Moment*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sorocaba, São Paulo, Brazil
2016 *Biennale Arte & Industria Labin*, Istria, Croatia
2015 *FORUM 5*, Bolognana, Pescara /Italy reflection on symbolic contents of Joseph Beuys' works
2014 *Gilded Holiday*, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York, NY
2014 Paul Kasmin Gallery, PK Shop, ABMB Miami, FL
2013 *FIVAC* (5th International Video Art Festival), Camagüey, Cuba
2012 *Saint Sebastian from Renaissance to the Present*, Edelman Arts, New York, NY, & Miami, FL
2012 *Moss: Dialogues between Art and Design*, Philips de Pury, New York, NY
2009 *Video Abierto*, Reina Sofia Museum, Murcia, Spain
2009 *X Bienal de Cuenca*, Cuenca, Ecuador
2009 *Crossing Borders*, Bjorn Ressle Gallery, New York, NY
2008 *Diva: Media Art*, Bjorn Ressle Gallery, New York, NY
2008 *Informed by Function*, Lehman College Art Gallery, New York, NY
2008 *The Arts in Cyberspace and Public Space on Seven Continents*, Streaming Museum, Melbourne, Australia
2007 *Auto-Retrato do Brazil*, Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2007 *Jewelry from Picasso to Kenny Scharff*, Neuhoff Edelman Gallery, New York, NY
2006 *Food Show: The Hungry Eye*, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY
2006 *Codes of Culture: Video Art from 7 Continents*, White Cube, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2005 *Where Fashion Meets Art*, Issey Miyake, New York, NY
2005 *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, Remy Toledo Gallery, New York, NY
2004 *Brazilian Contemporary Art*, Museu de Arte Moderna (MAM), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2004 *Surveillance Sortie Performance*, Magnetic Laboratorium, Brooklyn, NY
2003 *SX Street: A New Event*, Collaboration with Magnetic Laboratorium, New York, NY
2002 *Art for Play*, Playground for Projeto Anchieta, São Paulo, Brazil
1999 *Sky Drawing Sculpture*, Santa Fe, NM
1999 *Il Biennial of the Merco South*, Porto Alegre, Brazil
1998 *Feminine Plural*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina
1996 *Utopia*, Museum Casa das Rosas, São Paulo, Brazil
1995 *Integration-Desintegration*, Dahn Gallery, New York, NY
1995 *The Wild Form, 20 Year Survey*, Museu de Arte Moderna (MAM), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
1994 *The Wild Form: 20 Year Survey*, Museu de Arte de São Paulo (MASP), São Paulo, Brazil
1994 *Instalações Esculturas*, Gabinete de Arte Raquel Arnaud, São Paulo, Brazil
1994 *XXII Biennial International of São Paulo*, São Paulo, Brazil
1993 *Brazil: Images of the 80s and 90s*, Gilberto Chateaubriand Collection at Museum of the Americas, Washington D.C.
1993 *Sergio Fadel Collection*, Museum of Belas Artes, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
1993 *Portraits & Self Portraits*, Gilberto Chateaubriand Collection at Museu de Arte Moderna (MAM), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
1993 *Biennial Brazil XX century*, Brazil
1993 *Lingua Latina est Regina*, Stux Gallery, New York, NY
1993 *Integration-Desintegration*, Galeria Saramenha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
1991 *Sacred Garden*, Museo de Arte Americano in Maldonado, Punta del Este, Uruguay
1991 *Chair Sculptures Installation*, Tilden-Foley Gallery, New Orleans, LA
1990 *A Cor na Arte Brasileira*, Museum of the Image and Sound (MIS), São Paulo, Brazil
1990 *Homage to Balanchine*, Nadia Bassanese Studio, D'Arte Gallery, Trieste, Italy
1988 *Birds into the Night*, Venice Biennial, Academia and Museu Diocesano di Sant Apollonia, Venice, Italy
1987 *Latin American Artists in New York Since 1970*, Blanton Museum of art, University of Texas, Austin, TX
1987 *XIX Biennial Internacional of São Paulo*, São Paulo, Brazil
1986 *Jason McCoy Gallery*, New York, NY
1986 *Il Biennial of Havana*, Havana, Cuba
1985 *Today's Art of Brazil*, Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan
1984 *Havana Biennial*, Havana, Cuba
1984 *Contemporary Latin American Artists*, The Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, VA
1984 *New Forms of Figuration*, Americas Society, New York, NY
1984 *East Village Art in Berlin: Romance and Catastrophe*, Zellermyer Gallery, Berlin, Germany
1984 *New Talent*, Bonlow Gallery, New York, NY
1983 *Grandes Telas*, Gallery São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
1983 *Homage to Betty Parsons: Marcia Grostein and Jackson Pollock*, Betty Parsons Gallery, New York, NY
1983 *Women of the Americas: Emerging Perspectives*, Americas Society, New York, NY
1982 *Betty Parsons Gallery*, New York, NY
1982 *Installation/set for William Dunas choreography*, MoMA/PS.1, New York, NY
1981 *Paintings, Watercolors and Prints*, Paulo Figueiredo Gallery, São Paulo, Brazil

- 1981 *Chair Series: Paintings and Sculptures*, Institute for Art and Urban Resources (MoMA/P.S.1), New York, NY
- 1980 *Artist's Chairs*, Landfall Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1980 *Marcia Grostein's Women*, Sutton Gallery, New York, NY
- 1978 *Painting of the 70s*, Suydam Gallery, New York, NY
- 1972 *Zoologico*, Inter/Design Galeria, São Paulo, Brazil

TEACHING

- 2020 Mentorship to art students preparing for their masters during the pandemic quarantine, New York, NY
- 2017 Conversation with David D'Arcy discussing Brighton Beach project at Missoni Surface Conversion and Kreëmart, New York, NY
- 2017 Conversation with Leslie Koot on Brighton Beach Bliss at the National Arts Club, New York, NY
- 2011 Residence on Public Art at School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
- 2011 Presentation for Public Projects at School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
- 2009 Lecture on Video Art at the Museum of Modern Art, Cuenca, Ecuador
- 2008 AToA - Artists Talk on Art, School of Visual Arts (SVA) New York, NY
- 2007 Lecture of *Codes of Culture: Video Art from Seven Continents*, White-Cube, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2007 Symposium at the Video Art in the Age of Internet, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY
- 2003 Workshops for underprivileged children at Projeto Anchieta, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1988 Lectures at the Nadia Bassanesa Studio D'Arte Gallery to the students at Trieste University, Trieste, Italy
- 1985 Lecture on *Today's Art of Brazil* at the Hara Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo, Japan

SELECTED COMMISSIONS

- 2018 Commission of sculptures for Fama Museum, Itu, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2014 Private garden collection, Germany
- 2010 Playground for Instituto Anchieta Grajau, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2006 *Air Flower*, Punta del Este, Uruguay
- 2000 Buhl Collection, South Hampton, New York
- 1999 *Merco South Biennial*, Porto Alegre, Brazil
- 1998 *Sky Drawings for Santa Fe*, NM
- 1996 *Utopia, Nest*, Museum Casa das Rosas, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1994 *Spatial Passage, XXII*, São Paulo Biennial, São Paulo, Brazil
- 1982 Set design for William Dunas productions of "Paranarrative" by Borges, Institute for Art and Urban Resources, P.S.1, L.I.C., New York, NY
- 1973 Set design for the São Paulo productions of "Sleuth", São Paulo, Brazil
- 1972 Sculpture for the D.P.Z. Advertising Co. for the film "Rhoda"

COVER INFO

Detail of *Chairs*, 1981
Acrylic on canvas
81 1/2 x 52 1/2 in

Photo on pg. 2

Marcia Grostein photographed in São Paulo, 2023

Photo on pg. 3

Marcia Grostein photographed in her São Paulo studio, 1994

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Text:

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Special Thanks:

Marcia Grostein, Nicolás Castelli, Pedro Wainer, Sarah Czarnecki, Logan Rubin, Angelina Medina and Zorawar Sidhu

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