

# THE WALL

art gallery

Santiago Cárdenas (b. 1937) is known for his hyper-realist drawings and paintings of everyday objects. Throughout his long and prolific career, Cárdenas has acquired multiple influences, ranging from Old Master still lifes to Minimalist interventions in order to make his signature, enigmatic still lifes. Born in Bogotá, Colombia, he spent his teenage years in the suburbs north of New York City, then studying architecture, paintings, and drawing at the Rhode Island School of Design. After graduating, he enrolled in the U.S. Army, where he was able to travel to Europe and see firsthand the paintings of the Dutch Golden Age masters, as well as works by Diego Velázquez and Francisco Goya—all of whom would be incredibly influential to his craft. Cárdenas has a unique way of filtering these influences through a conceptual framework and imbues his still lifes with a flatness of form inspired by Alex Katz, who taught Cárdenas during his MFA at Yale University. He has been widely exhibited and his work can be found in major public collections including: The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Museum of Fine Arts, Caracas Venezuela; and Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico.