

STARLUX

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Let's go to the New World

ISSUE 2023 Vol.1

## The Winter Wonderland

札幌—函館：漫步在雪花紛飛的季節

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Extra Issue #5  
Los Angeles





## Mystical Cuba Landscapes that Mix Old and New

Havana, the capital of Cuba, is itself populated with free and unrestrained souls and is one of the few remaining socialist countries in the world. Reydel takes us on a stroll through Havana's winding streets, and while I scribble his story onto paper instead of canvas, we probe into Latin America's most magnificent urban treasures!

神秘古巴：現在與過去交界

Featuring Reydel Espinosa  
Written Angela Yeh (葉靜芳)  
Photo Adrian Garrido



### About Reydel Espinosa

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Reydel is a Cuban surrealist painter. His medieval dream metaphors, which were full of witches, alchemy, magic, bestiaries.

古巴超現實藝術家雷德爾，作品暗示了中世紀夢境，充滿了女巫、煉金術、魔法和動物寓言。

Early in the morning, I joined my photographer and dear friend Adrian Garrido on a charmingly intimate walk through the city; an uncommon pleasure for me up to this moment, given that discovering Havana's hidden spots was usually a pastime I'd share with my wife, while friends served mainly as drinking companions to play a round of cards and enjoy a delicious barbecue. (That's right, Cubans adore barbecue gatherings with relatives, friends, or neighbors. Washing down these simple culinary tastes with an ice-cold beer is absolute heaven!

On a cloudless day like today, El Surtidor Pool Terrace and Bar is certainly worth a visit. A night's stay at Havana's iconic and luxurious five-star hotel might not be affordable to everyone, but you need only have a cup of beverage at their rooftop bar and swimming pool to soak in a wondrous view of this city. Personally, I'm always fascinated by the view of the Old City's undeniably beautiful structures near the National Museum of Fine Arts, it adds to the fact that El Surtidor Pool Terrace and Bar is a deeply romantic space, which is why my wife and I consider it our secret hideaway and occasional luxury, and I couldn't be happier.



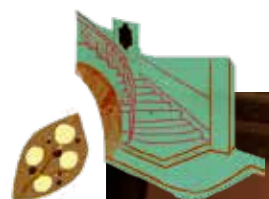
今天一早，我和我的攝影師兼好友 Adrian Garrido 出門走訪我心目中哈瓦那的私密散步路線，這並不尋常。因為好幾個私藏景點是我和我太太的共同回憶，和好友只適合喝啤酒、玩牌和「烤肉」。(沒錯，烤肉是古巴人最尋常的聚會模式，不管是親朋好友還是街坊鄰居，聚在一起就是要 BBQ——香噴噴的烤肉搭配杯冰涼的啤酒，就是人間天堂！

像今天這般萬里無雲的日子，El Surtidor 泳池露台酒吧值得一遊：所在地是哈瓦那最具指標性的昂貴奢華五星旅館之一，並非每個人都負擔得起一晚的住宿費。但是，只需要喝杯飲料或咖啡，一樣可以到這頂樓酒吧與一旁的泳池欣賞至高點的市區美景，這種幸福是不需要花費昂貴的金錢即能享受。尤其正對著美麗的國家美術館建築，以極佳視野欣賞老城區的歷史建築。奇怪的是，不管來幾次，我總是感到驚艷！El Surtidor 是一個極度浪漫的地方，我和妻子將此地視為我們想偶爾奢侈一下的秘密基地，令我內心滿滿幸福感。



Within a 5-minute walk, we reach the restaurant La Guarida, housed in an early 20th-century building. Its first floor's ruin-like structure was actually the filming location of the first and so far only Oscar-nominated Cuban film *Strawberries and Chocolate*. A nostalgic feeling pervades in La Guarida. With its renovated interior nicely juxtaposed with the dilapidated entrance, it evokes a unique sensation well-accompanied by the dishes of authentic and oh-so exquisite Cuban cuisine. You can also go up to the top floor's Mirador Bar for a glass of wine, maybe smoke a cigar or have a coffee as you lean against the wall, gazing out at central Havana's cityscape and its backdrop of the mesmerizing Caribbean sea and sky. When you come to La Guarida, you can get a sense as to why the city's charm is so incredibly unique, its breeze blowing against the mosaic of faces, both local and foreign alike. Within the restaurant's walls, the crowded, boisterous street life seems distant, as one settles in a

space where past and present intertwine so flawlessly. This business has become a trendsetter of new Cuban cuisine styles. Although the ingredients are not easy to obtain locally, it still provides a culinary experience equal to that of fine dining, thereby amazing many visiting gourmands. Ropa vieja, quite the authentic Cuban dish, is cooked with shredded beef, which is paired with black bean rice called moros y cristianos, as well as yucas fritas (cassava fries). However, since it is not easy for ordinary people in Cuba to buy beef in the market due to strict government regulations on the circulation of beef, only restaurants and hotels are permitted to sell it. Therefore, this traditional dish is unfortunately not easily found in most homes here. Every time friends from New York or Europe come to visit, I always invite them to a night out at La Guarida, and sure enough, whether for the food or the view, they always leave with a smile on their faces.



走路不到 5 分鐘的距離，就會抵達 La Guarida 所在的這棟 20 世紀初建築。一樓猶如廢墟般的存在，竟是第一也是迄今為止唯一獲得奧斯卡提名的古巴電影《草莓與巧克力》之取景地點。La Guarida 有一種懷舊的感受，走進缺乏維修、甚為頹圯的入口，卻是別有洞天。內部的整修和維護是與外面破敗有反差的新鮮感。除了能吃到古巴道地且精緻的料理外，還以上到頂樓的 Mirador Bar 喝杯小酒，抽根雪茄或是來杯咖啡，站在牆邊便能望見哈瓦那中區市景和加勒比海的海天一線景色。當微風吹來，由觀光客、異國臉孔、在地古巴人所組成的不同面孔，有別於繁忙、擁擠、嘶聲力竭的哈瓦那街頭生活情境，會有一種現在、過去交錯的時空感。哈瓦那為何如

此獨具魅力，來到 La Guarida 就能深深體會。La Guarida 成為新古巴美食的指標，雖然材料取得不易，但是這間餐廳依舊表現出如同 Fine Dining 層次的饗宴，讓許多饕客為之驚艷。Ropa vieja 是由牛肉絲烹調的一道古巴料理，再搭配 moros y cristianos (黑豆飯) 和 yucas fritas (炸木薯)，便是相當道地的古巴風味餐。在古巴一般人民是不容易在市場買到牛肉的，因為政府嚴格管制牛肉在市場的流通，只有餐廳與飯店才有販售。因此要自己在家裡準備一道 Ropa vieja 也是不容易，這是幾乎只有在餐館才能享受到的一道傳統古巴菜，每次有紐約或歐洲的朋友到訪，我一定會帶他們親臨 La Guarida，無論是美食或夜景，總能讓他們帶著笑容而歸。





The National Museum of Fine Arts was completed in 1913 and is divided into two independent exhibition halls. One of the buildings, the Palacio del Centro Asturiano, mainly exhibits European works of art from the 15th to the 20th centuries, and is what I consider to be the international collection that inspired my artistic creativity. For friends who want to know more about Cuban art and heavyweight artists, visiting a museum that specializes in Cuban art such as this one definitely offers a plethora of rich and awe-inspiring works, giving one a deeply comprehensive understanding of the history and interpretation of Cuban art itself. To this day, I can still recall when I'd come here as a child, notebook in hand, to copy the skills of the maestros who authored the masterpieces

housed within this national museum. I'd imagine myself meeting each one of them through my brushstrokes, outlining their colorful works and embarking on countless joyful journeys of creation.

An old brewery known for its fresh, cold beverages and stunning view of the harbor, Cervecería Antigo Almacen de la Madera y El Tabaco is also a restaurant that often provides live music performances. Situated next to a market with numerous artists' stalls, the brewery's open air area is ideal for chatting with other lovers of art and life's many pleasures. Whenever I feel tired from doing brushstrokes, I come by to sip on a glass of beer as the ocean breeze relaxes the mind, especially during the nation's hot



summers. One short rest later, I watch expectantly as the bartender lines up several glasses, mashes a pinch or two of white sugar, adds some lemon juice, mint leaves, and a three-year-old Havana Club with soda water. The resulting aroma is indeed a Cuban classic – the Mojito – possibly the best companion to have as a small orchestral band plays tunes perfectly suited for a day by Havana's seaside.

國家美術博物館是1913年落成，分為兩棟獨立的展覽館。其中一棟 (Palacio del Centro Asturiano) 主要展覽 15 到 20 世紀的歐洲藝術。這幢國際收藏館是我視為啟蒙我藝術創作的學校。對於想認識古巴藝術和重量級藝術家朋友，來到專門收藏古巴藝術的美術館，絕對能欣賞到相當豐富、精彩的作品，對於古巴藝術的歷史和演繹脈絡也都能有全面性的認識。至今，我仍然記我年幼時帶著筆記本在國家美術館臨摹大師作品技巧的畫面，在我的腦海中彷彿與大師們相遇，透過他們的筆觸，勾勒出一幅幅色彩繽紛的作品，帶著我遨遊在創作的喜悅中。

我也非常喜歡 Cervecería Antigo Almacen de la Madera y El Tabaco，也是能喝著現釀啤酒一邊欣賞海港景色的餐廳，有的時候會有現場音樂表演，地點就位在有許多藝術家販售藝術品的市集旁。我最喜歡它位在戶外面對開闊海港的位置，吹著海風，喝著冰涼的啤酒來放鬆一下心情，我經常和藝術家朋友們在此開心聊著生活、藝術，渡過愉快的時光。當我感覺一天作畫完很疲倦時，便想來此喝杯啤酒、看著海港景色放鬆我的頭腦，尤其在酷熱的夏天，稍作片刻的休憩之後，欣賞酒保把玻璃杯一字排開，將白砂糖、檸檬汁和薄荷葉搗出香氣，加入三年的 Havana Club 和蘇打水攪拌，調製出一杯氣味清新、香氣濃郁的古巴經典，襯著小型樂團的現場演奏，人手一杯的古巴 Mojito 時間，真是世間一大享受。





cocktail-making, Vitrola handily surpasses all of them. As per their menu, I highly recommend their grilled lobster, paired with a glass of their refreshing Margarita Vitrola, a signature cocktail that includes a splash of beer.

美麗優雅的歷史遺址Catedral de La Habana與其廣場可說是哈瓦那屹立不搖的招牌：受巴洛克式設計元素影響的西班牙建築，以哈瓦那大教堂為基礎，延續出古巴貴族的豪宅等大型宏偉建築。除了教堂本身，千萬不要錯過正對著教堂前方，建造於1720年的西班牙殖民時期建築，華麗無比的線條結構，曾經是西班牙政府拿督Don Luis Chacón的家，目前是殖民藝術美術館，開放給大眾參觀。

名為Casa de Carmen Montilla的藝廊對我來說也是個相當特別的場域，委內瑞拉畫家Carmen Montilla Tinoco一直住在那裡直到她去世，而此區也是拉丁美洲和古巴的造型藝術家的重要展覽場所。入口處看來似乎是一間普通的殖民時期民房，但是走進藝廊再往後方走是一個充滿綠意盎然、與街頭熱鬧相當反差的安靜庭院，像是一個隱藏的城市綠洲。它是一棟西班牙殖民風格的建築，帶有美麗的露台，陶瓷壁畫由92歲的古巴國寶級藝術家Alfredo Sosa Bravo 所創作。這個庭院有著相當獨特的能量，吸引著我經常在此作畫，完成多幅大型作品。

Vitrola是一家在Plaza Vieja (舊廣場) 旁充滿生氣的私營餐廳，每天都有現場古巴音樂表演，氣氛佳，食物和飲料都很不錯。我的歐美收藏家們每次造訪哈瓦那，都會請我推薦舊城區有氣氛、食物好吃的餐廳，我總是毫不猶豫推薦這家老廣場上的角落餐廳。雖然哈瓦那許多餐廳都有雞尾酒，但是品質絕對沒有Vitrola 的好，餐點的部分我特別推薦他們的烤龍蝦，再配上一杯清爽有加啤酒的店內招牌雞尾酒Margarita Vitrola。

The wonderfully historic Havana Cathedral, and its plaza, is arguably the unshakable landmark of Cuba's capital, with its Spanish architecture and elements of Baroque design. In addition to the cathedral itself, don't miss the Spanish colonial building Palace of the Counts of House Bayona. Built in 1720, and facing the front of the cathedral, it currently houses the Museum of Colonial Arts and is open to the public.

The art galleries at Casa de Carmen Montilla are also a very special place for me. Venezuelan painter Carmen Montilla Tinoco lived there until her death, and it is now an important exhibition center for Cuban and other Latin American plastic artists. The entrance to the galleries seems to resemble an

ordinary colonial house, but upon entering and reaching the back, a quiet courtyard full of greenery unfolds before you. Casa de Carmen Montilla has a delightful terrace and ceramic murals created by Alfredo Sosa Bravo, an artist and national icon currently in his early 90s. I come here to feel inspired and complete my large-scale projects.

Vitrola is a lively private restaurant next to Plaza Vieja (Old Square). There's live Cuban music every day, a great atmosphere, and an even better menu. When my visiting European and American collectors ask me to recommend restaurants in the Old City, I don't hesitate to mention this restaurant at a corner of the public square, and although many restaurants in Havana excel at





Calle Peña Pobre is a unique old street, where I spent a memorable Christmas Eve dinner with my family in 2019. We had chosen to go to a restaurant called Antojos that specializes in baked foods. I went out with my parents, younger brother, mother-in-law, my wife, and our newborn daughter, so it's almost a once-in-a-lifetime occasion. We spend some quality time together, then the pandemic broke out in 2020, and everything changed. Words cannot describe how much I miss that evening. The colonial houses lining Calle Peña Pobre have been converted into quaint cafes and restaurants of varying styles, and when night falls, this narrow street feels even more inviting as it lights up with warm yellow bulbs.

Not far from this hangout hub is the graphic workshop Taller Experimental de Gráfica on Callejón del Chorro, a print exchange that I frequent to meet a diverse cast of outstanding printmaking artists. A large number of prints are circulated in this space, meaning there's always something for everyone, and it isn't hard to find one's favorite piece. Visitors can even see an artist's printmaking process on the spot, all while chatting with local experts in the field of graphic design. I eventually realized that many tourists who would eat at the restaurant outside the workshop didn't know about the studio in the back full of purchasable artworks which, as a sidenote, only artists with a

government-issued license can use to make prints.

For those who collect vintage items, old books, stamps or want to hunt for old Cuban treasures, Havana's Antigua Casa de Justiz y Santa Ana, an antique market on Calle Baratillo, is definitely the place to visit. Due to Cuba's limited imports and exports market, the country attracts throngs of lovers for everything vintage or antique. Many visitors love that the aesthetic charm of 1950s and 1960s has remained here as if society has been frozen in time, including our antique cars and furniture. ✨



Calle Peña Pobre 是一條獨特的狹窄老街，我曾經與我的家人一同在這裡渡過2019年的美好耶誕夜。我們選擇一家叫Antojos的烤物餐廳一起享用耶誕大餐。我父母、弟弟，我太太和岳母，以及我們剛出生的女兒，很難得能齊聚一堂共渡美好時光。緊接著2020年疫情就爆發了，所以我格外懷念2019年的聖誕夜。Calle Peña Pobre 這條路上聚集許多餐廳和咖啡館，街道兩旁是殖民時期的民宅和改建的餐廳，每家都有自己獨特的風格。

距離不遠處，Taller Experimental de Gráfica on Callejón del Chorro 版畫交易所也是我十分喜愛的散步地點。這裡有相當多優秀、及多元的版畫藝術家聚集。大量的版畫在此流通，風格相當多元，任何人要在此找到喜歡的版畫作品是不難的，甚至可以在現場看到藝術家製作版畫的過程，也能和本地藝術家進一步交流。許多觀光客會在版畫交易外面的餐廳用餐，卻不知道後方看似工作室的空間，是可以進去參觀並購買藝術品的。

Antigua Casa de Justiz y Santa Ana 是位於哈瓦那Calle Baratillo上的舊物市集，有在收集古董老物、絕版舊書、郵票的人，來這裡尋寶就對了。猶如被時光機封存般的古巴，總是吸引許多愛好者前來，大都是因為喜愛古巴保留50、60年代生活的韻味，也因為古巴的進出口尚未發達，境內總是流通著許多復古的東西，像是古董車或是古董家具。





# CUBA HAVANA

## Reydel's Favorites

### 雷德爾去哪裡？

#### 1 El Surtidor Pool Terrace and Bar

El Surtidor Pool Terrace and Bar is located on the top floor of Gran Hotel Manzana Kempinski, equipped with an infinity pool and a great view facing the National Museum of Fine Arts.

#### 2 La Guarida

La Guarida restaurant is located in an early 20th-century building whose first-floor façade has a historic.

#### 3 National Museum of Fine Arts

The National Museum of Fine Arts was completed in 1913. Palacio del Centro Asturiano, mainly exhibits European works of art from the 15th to the 20th centuries.

#### 4 Cervecería Antigua Almacén de la Madera y El Tabaco

It is an old brewery with a wonderful seaside view, just next to the souvenir market Feria San José.

#### 5 Catedral de La Habana

It is arguably the unshakable landmark of Cuba's capital, with its Spanish architecture and elements of Baroque design.

#### 6 Casa de Carmen Montilla

Casa de Carmen Montilla is an institution run by the Office of the Historian of the City of Havana. Venezuelan painter Carmen Montilla Tinoco lived there until her death.

#### 7 Vitrol

As per their menu, I highly recommend their grilled lobster, paired with a glass of Margarita Vitrola.

#### 8 Calle Peña Pobr

Calle Peña Pobre is a unique old street, where restaurants combine traditional and modern cuisine to make authentically Cuban styles.

#### 9 Taller Experimental de Gráfica callejón del Churron

It is Havana's largest print exchange, where visitor can watch artists make their prints in situ.

#### 10 Antigua Casa de Justiz y Santa Ana

For those who collect vintage items, old books, stamps or want to hunt for old Cuban treasures, here is definitely the place to visit.



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