



OSCAR GARCIA

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ARTIST STATEMENT

Oscar Garcia was born in Lima Peru, though his family is from Cajamarca in the northwest mountainous region. Along with his Pre-Columbian ancestry Oscar's childhood was immersed in the culture, language and agriculture of the Inca civilization. The Quechuan term Pacha Mama refers to the bountiful mother earth caring for her children; and Oscar was taught that nature is generous in providing the natural resources for us to cultivate the land and bring economic prosperity to enrich the people. This can be seen in the Moray Salt Mines of Urubamba and the Andean terraces excavated into the mountain side.

Oscar's need to sculpt is essentially his conceptual response at restoring a way of life with respect to the earth. Made from organic materials that are abundant, Oscar's sculptures blur material boundaries and emerge into transcendent and ephemeral expressions. He uses wood taken raw from nature and paper, a recycled by product of civilization - materials that have the same root and yet seemingly different purposes between ancient and modernized worlds.

For Oscar, the paper that covers the form of a figure is a new skin that covers the ego of human instinct to conquer, survive, populate, migrate and usurp natural resources. Just as humanity struggles to balance their instinct and their environment, so Oscar struggles in his work to balance material and representation.

“Form and illusion, simple or complex, is an impression. Before paper, wood or stone, ever take shape, there is just looking at the natural, spontaneous, funny and sad. Be it the whispers of rustling trees, or the gentle breath of a still model, truth has its way of tapping us on the shoulder. It starts as a group of lines, connecting points that capture the essential form of the subject. To try to create in art what is in life. So incredibly elusive; forms that suggest, material left untouched, a curve repeating onto itself with no end, a line that falls off the back without so much as a sigh.”

Oscar Garcia