

## BOOKS

## A showcase for Cuban writings and artwork

BY FABIOLA SANTIAGO  
fsantiago@miamiherald.com

In a marriage of art and literature, a new anthology of contemporary Cuban writing is showcasing the artwork of acclaimed Cuban painters living in France, Mexico and the United States.

*Voces de Cambio: Nueva literatura cubana* (Voices of Change: New Cuban Literature) features the work of Miami-based master Guindo Bermudez, sculptor Gay García, painters Miguel Padura, Luis Vega, Silvio Gayón, Carlos Arlet, and the late José María Mirares.

The book — published in a partnership between Mexico City's Ediciones el Cambio and the independent libraries of Cuba — will be presented at 7 p.m. Tuesday at The Americas Collection, 2440 Ponce de Leon Blvd., in Coral Gables.

"The combination of writers

who live in Cuba and the visual artists who live outside of Cuba learning from one another is encouraging," says Julieta Valls, a consultant to the Pan American Development Foundation, which funded the project and has been supporting the work of independent libraries for years. "An integration, a rapprochement is very valuable."

*Voces de Cambio* features the poetry and prose of 21 independent writers on the island. They are all winners of the literary contest El Heraldo organized by the Independent Libraries of Cuba with the support of the foundation.

Among the writings: Guillermo Farfán Hernández's testimony of his hunger strike to demand Internet access; Luis Guerra Juvier's journalistic account, "Waiting for Justice: A

Grandmother's Lament," the story of Avelina Díaz López, grandmother of one of three youths executed in 2003 for attempting to flee Cuba by stealing a Havana ferry.

Many of the artworks featured in the book are from the private collection of Nunzio Mainieri, a Miami doctor, artist and collector, Valls said. The five Miami artists participating in the project will stage a one-night exhibit at Tuesday's presentation.

Another event, an official book launch, is scheduled at 8 p.m. Dec. 14 at Books & Books in Coral Gables.

**FRUTAS:** This painting by Miguel Padura is among the works in *Voces de Cambio: Nueva literatura cubana*.



WALLFLOWER GALLERY REOPENING