

Convergence of Horizons
Juan José Barboza-Gubo



September 9 - October 24, 2026

**Artist Talk with the artist and Dr. Audrey N. Lopez,
Director & Curator of Public Art at the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy
September 14 at 6:30 pm**

(July 21, 2026 – Boston, MA) Praise Shadows is pleased to announce *Convergence of Horizons*, Juan José Barboza-Gubo's second solo exhibition at the gallery, representing the Peruvian artist's most ambitious and significant work to date. The artist addresses a question that has been at the forefront of his artistic practice: "How can one make visible that which never ceases to move?" Developed over more than two years and produced primarily in his Lima studio, Barboza-Gubo's sculptures and drawings transform the gallery's 2,000 square feet of space into an environment where matter appears to exist in a continuous state of flux. By carving, casting, and assembling solid materials until they appear liquid, organic, and atmospheric, the artist transforms recycled acrylic, glass, metal, lapis lazuli, and *lianas* (a woody vine) into manifestations of the same energy, as though each material retained the memory of an interrupted flow. Inspired by the extraordinary biodiversity of the Peruvian Amazon, these works do not seek to represent the landscape but rather to reveal the invisible forces that traverse it—growth, erosion, the circulation of water, sedimentation, and geological time—proposing a universe in which the organic and the artificial cease to be opposing categories and instead become expressions of the same vital force.

A talk with the artist, moderated by Dr. Audrey N. Lopez, Director & Curator of Public Art at the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, will take place at the gallery on September 14. Registration details to come.

Convergence of Horizons imagines a place where distant worlds meet, creating connection points between our known selves and alternate versions of ourselves. In Barboza-Gubo's sculptures, an "in-between" is realized through form, light, and material. Sinuous carved acrylic is treated in a manner so deliberate that the suggestion of gas and liquid appear to morph from a solid mass. His mastery of the materials is apparent in the seamless optical transition from human-made to organic. For example, in the seven discrete floor sculptures, *Return*, a tubular formation of opaque acrylic whirls upward from the ground, rising to a polished translucency that mimics a whirlpool inlaid with river stones that have been manipulated with precise geometric cuts and, in some cases, with silver nitrate.



In the sculptural installation *Submerged Sky*, a pair of human arms extend like suspended horizons. Formed from dark green glass reminiscent of the waters of the Tambopata River in the Amazon rainforest, the arms are in the midst of transformation, as metallic vines cascade from surface gashes to form delicate, suspending constellations. Precious lapis lazuli among the metallic vine strands appear as blue islands, symbolizing moments of connection in a metaphysical timeline.

A new series of drawings—delicately rendered in graphite and finished in washes of blue, evoking illustrations from historic manuscripts that attempt to record and explain lost worlds—will also be on view. Barboza-Gubo is both a world-builder and the chronicler of moments such as these, when lush plantlife, celestial bodies, and human forms converge on a faraway horizon.

About the artist

Juan José Barboza-Gubo (Peru, born 1976) obtained his bachelor's degree at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, where he graduated with honors. He received Master of Fine Arts degrees in Painting and in Sculpture from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Solo exhibitions include: Museum of Contemporary Art, Peru; Museum of Memory, Peru; Museum of Sex, New York; Inter Kultur Foto Art; French Institute of Stuttgart; Colonial Museum Bogotá, Colombia; Germán Krüger Espantoso Gallery ICPNA-Peru; and Fitchburg Art Museum, among

others. Recent notable awards include: the 2025 Brother Thomas Fellowship, Artadia Boston in 2023, and the Mass Cultural Council Photography Fellowship in 2019. Barboza-Gubo is a tenured professor at Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

About Praise Shadows Art Gallery

Praise Shadows Art Gallery is a contemporary art program based in Boston with a focus on exceptional artists working in all artistic disciplines. Our worldview is informed by the notion that the artworld's untapped and unrecognized potential is worth cultivating, supporting, and championing. Since our founding in December 2020, the gallery has placed artworks by our artists in esteemed public collections, and our exhibitions have been covered widely in major international media outlets. Our work is grounded by partnering closely with artists to develop opportunities in traditional and emerging models of creativity and entrepreneurship—exhibitions, commissions, brand partnerships, new technologies, and original concepts that no one has ever tried before. www.praiseshadows.com

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Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm

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