

THE 
GRIFFIS ART CENTER

INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM – MAISON des ARTISTES
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT USA

DESIDERO SANCHEZ

2003 Artist-in-Residence
Bocas del Toro, Republic of Panama



"Patriarch"

Date Acquired: 06/17/03 Date Created: 2003
Framed Dimensions: 52 x 76", Picture Dimensions: 50.5 x 74.5"
Medium: Mixed Media

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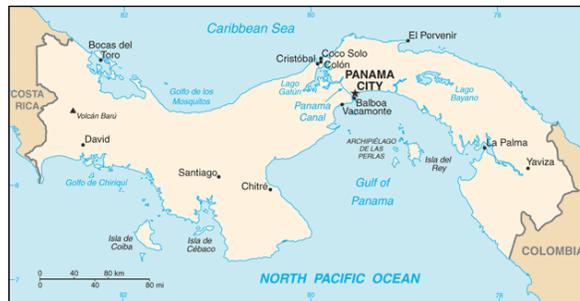
INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM – MAISON des ARTISTES
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Desiderio SANCHEZ

2003 International Artist-in-Residence

from
Bocas del Toro,
Republic of Panama



Desiderio Sanchez, a renowned Latin American artist, has been painting for well over six decades. He was born and raised in the remote province of Bocas del Toro, Republic of Panama, and his work is strongly influenced by his long term fascination with its indigenous peoples.

Sanchez's career in art began when as a young pre-med student he was introduced to the renowned Mexican muralist, Diego Rivera. At first intrigued by the strength and passion of Rivera and his work, Desiderio Sanchez would eventually cease his medical studies to dedicate himself to painting. Other major influences in his work have been the Mexican artists of David Alfaro Siqueiros and Rufino Tamayo as well as the Fauvists, Rouault, Matisse and Gauguin. Sanchez associated freely with the Mexican artists, in particular Tamayo, with whom he maintained a close friendship.

Dominated by images of the unique indigenous peoples of his birthplace in Boca del Toro, Panama, Sanchez's work is noted for its abstracted figures, vibrant color, intriguing textures and virtuosity of brushwork. All which draw from Sanchez's influences. In the words of long time renowned Picasso biographer and critic, Carlos Senti has said of Sanchez "... Disederio Sanchez belongs to the generation of master artists and muralists, Robert Mata, Amaral or Guayassamin. Those great Masters who's art [spoke] volumes about their world and their people ..."

Throughout his long career, Sanchez has exhibited in Latin America, Europe and the United States. He was invited to paint in Spain at the personal invitation of King Juan Carlos and his work is in the collection of the Royal Palace as well as the Vatican. When Panama Celebrated its centennial, Sanchez was named a national treasure and official artist of the Republic.

Migdalia Salas, 2003