

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALBERTO KORDA  
KORDA IN AMERICA

ON VIEW  
EXTENDED THROUGH FEBRUARY 20, 2016

OPENING RECEPTION  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 6–8 PM

TALK WITH DIANA DIAZ, DAUGHTER TO KORDA  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 7PM



Waiting to see Fidel Castro outside the Statler Hotel, New York.  
Tuesday, April 21, 1959

(NEW YORK, December 2015) Sous Les Etoiles Gallery and the Alberto Korda Estate are pleased to announce the first survey exhibition of photographer Alberto Korda's 1959 and 1960 visits to the US with Fidel Castro. The exhibition, titled "Korda in America," is comprised of over 60 images, almost all of which have never before been seen or exhibited. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, December 17, 6-8pm, and a Talk with Diana Diaz, daughter of Korda, is scheduled for Monday, December 21, at 7pm.

"Korda in America," shot during Fidel Castro's historic first visits to America in April of 1959—at the invitation of the American Society of Newspaper Editors—and September of 1960, is a testament to both Cuba's and Korda's enduring significance. Korda, reporting for the newly created Cuban newspaper *Revolución*, documented Castro, both the man and political figure, as no other photographer was able. In the span of approximately fourteen days between Washington, New York and Boston in April of 1959, Korda documents a whirlwind of activity, capturing not only the public face of the 33-year-old Prime Minister of Cuba, but also the relaxed, intimate, and even humorous moments throughout the visit. Despite the US government's increasing concerns over Castro's political plans, the seductive personality of the charismatic leader was conscientiously chronicled by Korda. In addition to his photojournalism duties, Korda also reveals his lifelong passion for fashion photography and feminine beauty. After photographing the bearded former guerilla fighter in olive-green fatigues on the set of NBC's *Meet the Press* as he explains his impressions of the "nice and noble" US citizens, Korda turns his attention to an anonymous model in a smart suit who poses alongside the police barricades of New York as the crowd waits for Castro to drive down the street.

This timely exhibition, curated following the recent thaw in US-Cuba foreign relations and marking the one-year anniversary of President Barack Obama's televised Statement, offers an historical insight into a time fraught with tension, yet hallmarked by the spellbound attention of the crowd, impressing America's long-held fascination with Cuba and its struggle for freedom.

Alberto Díaz Gutiérrez (1928–2001), otherwise known as Korda and best known for his image of Che Guevara, was the accompanying photographer to Fidel Castro for ten years, the auteur of several of the most iconic images of the Cuban Revolution, and the most versatile Cuban photographer of his generation. Born the son of a railway worker and a housewife in Havana, Cuba, Alberto Korda went on to photograph such important historical figures and luminaries as Nikita Khrushchev, Simone de Beauvoir, and Jean-Paul Sartre, and was awarded the Cuban "Palma de Plata" in 1959 and the National Culture Distinction, Ministry of Culture, Cuba in 1994. The work of Alberto Korda may be found in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; Center for Cuban Studies, New York, NY; Museum of Fine Arts, Fort Lauderdale, FL; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain; Musée de l'Élysée, Lausanne, Switzerland; Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana, Cuba; Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina; The International Art Heritage Foundation; Maison de la Culture de la Seine Saint-Denis, Paris, France; and Mexican Council of Photography, Mexico, among others.

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