**Luis Carle**

**Luis Carle** is an artist-photographer who moved from Puerto Rico to New York in 1984 to study photography at Parsons School of Design. In 1992 founded and directed O.P. Art, Inc. (Organization of Puerto Rican Artists, Inc.) to support the work and vision of emerging artists.

Carle’s photographs are in the permanent collections of the Leslie Lohman Gay Art Museum in NYC and the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. His works have been shown in galleries and museums throughout New York and abroad including the Caribbean Museum in St. Croix, Museo of Contemporary Arts, San Juan; Museo de las Americas, San Juan; Centro Gallery at Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College; El Museo del Barrio; MOCADA: Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts; The Museum of Modern Art; The Hague Arts Center and Sarkowsky Gallery, St Petersburg, Russia.

Artist Statement

My generation was the one between oppression and freedom. I feel proud that my portrait of the Sylvia Rivera is the first image of a transgender Latinx person to enter the collection of the National Portrait Gallery. Sylvia Rivera is a LGBTQ rights pioneer; she was a leader in the Stonewall Riots of 1969 and an ally of the Young Lords who formed the YLP women’s caucus and YLP gay and lesbian caucus.