Geraldina Interiano Wise Short Bio

Geraldina Interiano Wise (b. 1960, San Salvador, El Salvador) is a Houston-based multidisciplinary artist whose work is informed by architecture, archaeology, environmental advocacy, and Maya cultural heritage. Her artistic foundation began in childhood under the mentorship of painter Violeta Bonilla, a protégé of Diego Rivera. Painting outdoors on the slopes of the San Salvador Volcano fostered a lifelong connection to nature and heightened her awareness of social inequality, inspiring her commitment to sustainability and community-centered design.

Interiano Wise studied art and art history at Vassar College, where she was influenced by feminist art historian Linda Nochlin and inspired by frequent visits to New York City's vibrant contemporary art scene. Encouraged to unite her interests in art and social impact, she transferred to Rice University, earning degrees in Architecture, Art, and Art History.

The outbreak of the Salvadoran Civil War in 1979 permanently displaced her from her homeland, making her what she describes as an “accidental immigrant.” During her studies, an archaeological excavation along Rome's Via Appia deepened her interest in history, time, and humanity's relationship to the natural world.

After a 25-year career leading a sustainable residential architecture practice, Interiano Wise dedicated herself fully to art in 2011. Her practice spans painting, sculpture, assemblage, collage, printmaking, video, performance, wearable art, and 3D design. Rooted in environmental stewardship, cultural identity, and ancestral knowledge, her work explores connections between people, place, and the planet.

In 2021, she co-founded ALMAAHH (Advocates for a Latino Museum of Art & Culture in Houston) and served as its first board chair. She lives and works in Houston, Texas.