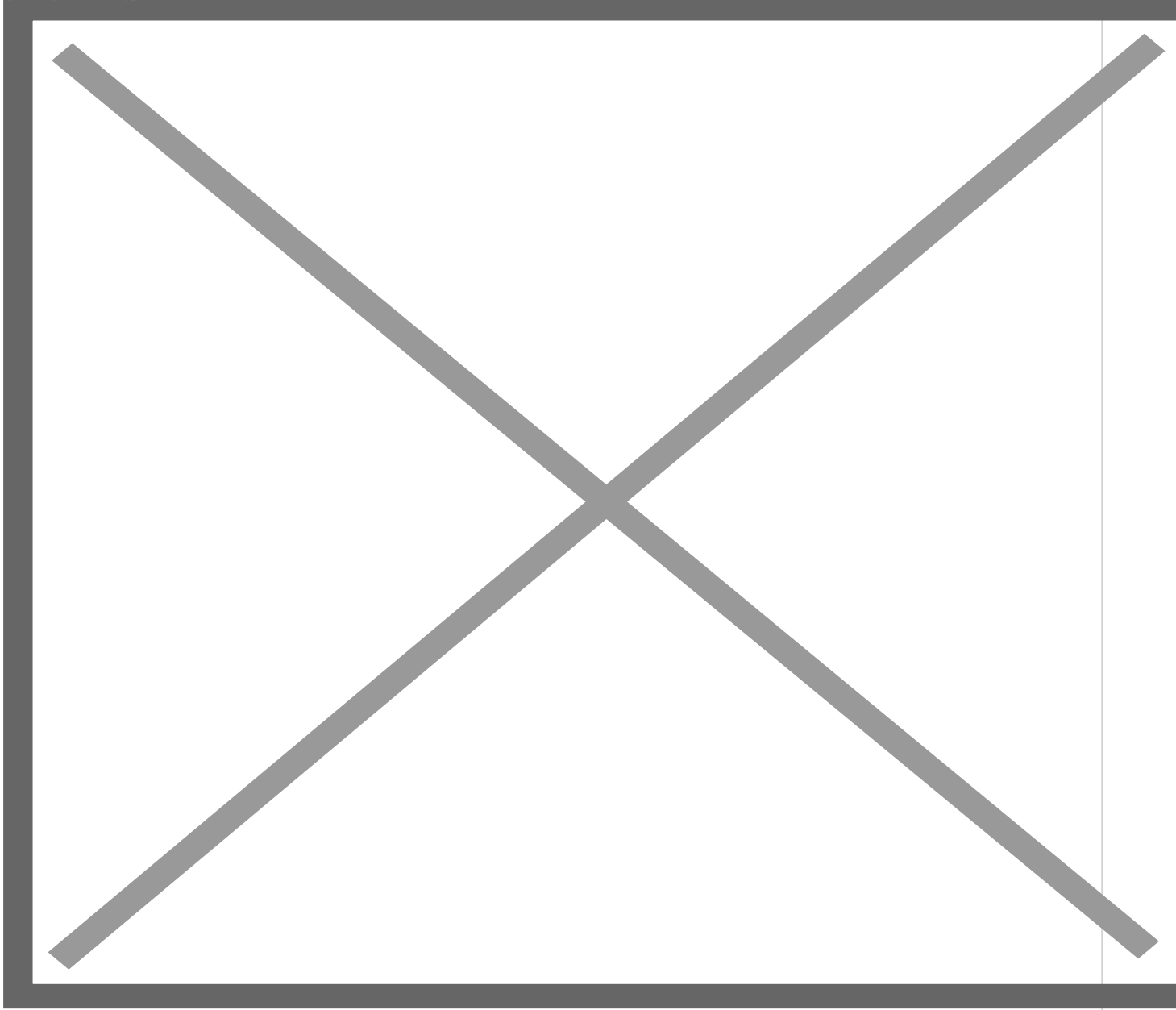


# *Cuba and El Salvador strengthen ties through art*

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**Cuba and El Salvador strengthen ties through art**

Havana, July 28 (RHC) The Minister of Culture of El Salvador, Mariem Pleitez, visiting Cuba today, highlighted the work of her compatriot painter Juan Francisco Wenceslao (1823-1878) as a bridge of artistic communication between both countries.

In a tour made the day before by the National Museum of Fine Arts (MNBA), in Havana, Pleitez learned more about the works of the aforementioned Salvadoran artist who preserves and treasures the institution in the Art Room of the Colony. The visiting official celebrated "the possibility of sharing this tribute to the memory of a great artist whose work unites the two nations".

Juan Francisco Wenceslao was the first Salvadoran to formally study art in Europe and developed most of his works in Cuba. He achieved notable ascendancy in the fields of drawing, painting and engraving, being also director of the San Alejandro Academy from 1859 until his death in Havana.

Pleitez and guests learned about each period and experiences of the painter, before part of his work permanently exhibited at the MNBA, coinciding with the bicentennial of his birth.

Juan Francisco Wenceslao is considered the most representative and universal artist of El Salvador. (Source: PL)

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