

# BANEQUE

OSCAR SANTILLÁN

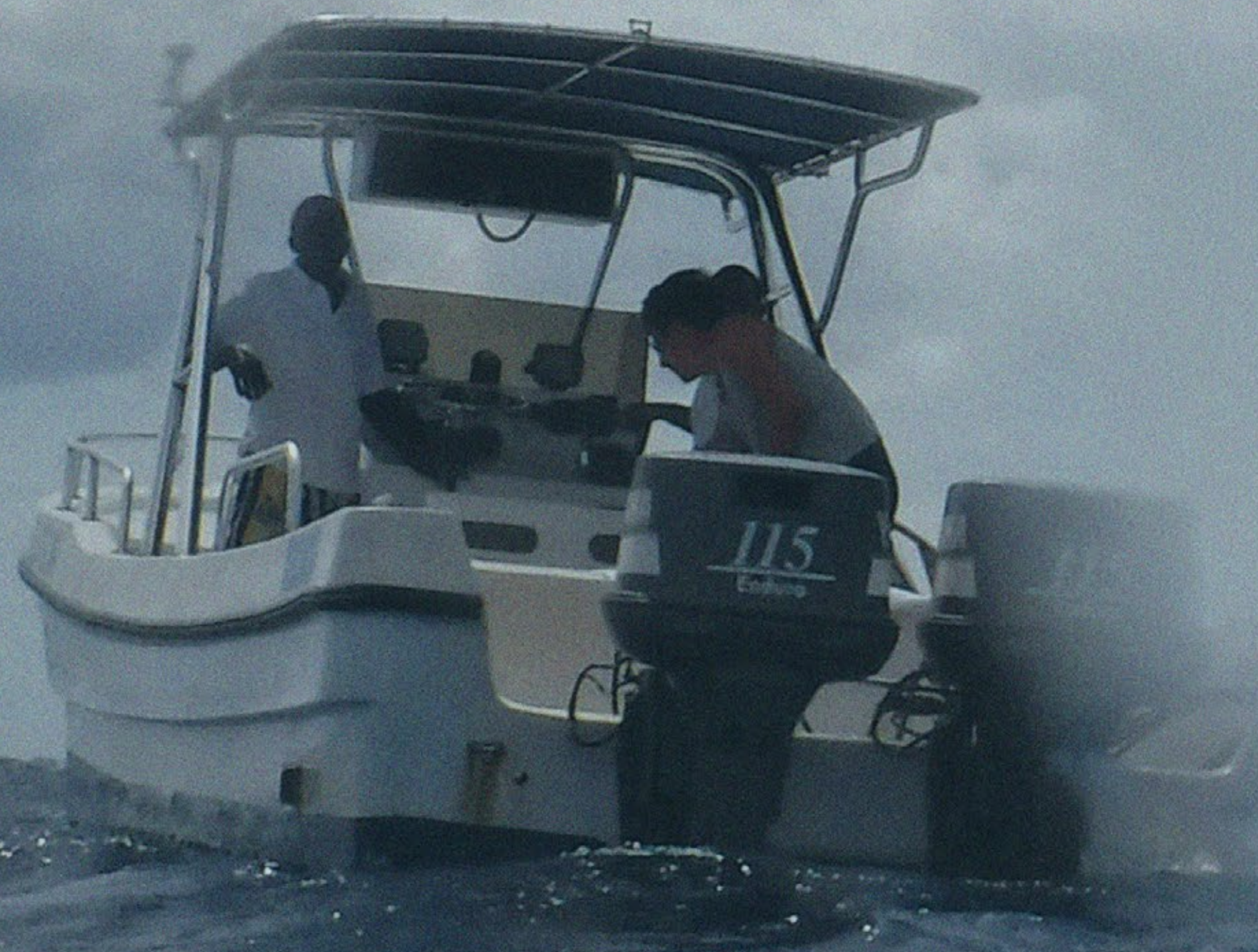
First map drawn by Columbus soon after his arrival on the coast of what he called 'La Española' island in 1492. Nowadays the island hosts two countries; the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

# BANEQUE

{PROCESS DOCUMENTATION}

Upon landing, the Taíno natives told Columbus of an island called 'Baneque', which had all the richness he was searching for. Based on their indications, the sailor devoted the following two months searching for an island that does not exist.

Could it be possible to find the place never found by the so-called 'discoverer'? In the area corresponding to the Atlantic Ocean there is a hole in the map drawn by the European sailor. This hole, which has the shape of an island, is the only missing part of the map.



For the artist, this tiny missing area of the map inevitably meant a hint of the missing island. If charted, the hole in Columbus map is located 4.2 miles into the ocean. Santillán traveled to the location where he gathered over 100 liters of sea water. In the following days this water was left to naturally evaporate from where crystals and minerals began appearing. At last the lost island has revealed itself.



**BANEQUE**

A crystallized phantom island.

Salt water crystals 10x6x7cm displayed on a glass sheet 200x200x1cm.

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