

## GaleríaDanielCuevas

### BOOKS IN ART

José Manuel Ballester – Julia Aurora Guzmán – Jorge Julve – Ignacio Llamas – Edgar Martins – Linarejos Moreno – Daniel Verbis  
From September 10th to November 7th. As part of the Programme **APERTURA MADRID GALLERY WEEKEND**.  
Opening: 10th September, from 12:00 to 22:00.

In this first exhibition, we are showing works by seven artists linked by the relationship between Book and Art. Each artist presents works in which the book, literature, poetry, scientific publications or press, are the basis, in a metaphorical, poetical, subtle or even more direct way, where the book, as an object, is the very support of the work of art. All these artists have been influenced by their readings, their favourite authors, who paved the way for new projects and, also, the physical presence of books in their studios, in their homes, in their almost infinite libraries.

**Jose Manuel Ballester:** ( Madrid 1960) Asplund Library is a good example of Ballester's interest in architecture and books. Whenever he travels he feels the need to find big or small libraries where he can take photographs of spaces intended and built to be home of books, giving them, as he does in this case, an almost sculptural character because of its layout and integration into the space. Ballester explains how, in his visit to the library, he felt " an immense light kept inside the building. A light which mysteriously seemed to be given off from inside the building, rather than from outside... I also decided to remove the furniture from the reading room and recover in that way the pattern of the floor". The photograph is 100 x 300 cm and was taken in Stockholm public library, designed by the architect Erik Gunnar Asplund. **Ballester, painter and photographer, is the winner of the Comunidad de Madrid 2009 Award and the 2010 National Photography Prize. His works form part of the collections of many museums and public and private collections in Spain and countries such as the USA, Brazil, China and Japan.**

**Julia Aurora Guzmán:** ( Dominican Republic, 1993) Our first show with this artist, currently living and working in Amsterdam, who will have her own exhibition in March 2021. She works in the interdisciplinary field of sculpture, textiles, photography, performance, and in site installations. Guzmán's material and conceptual practice focuses in the concept of artistic medium. She creates installations that borrow the language of architecture to show metaphors for emotional, social and physical support systems. In this exhibition we are showing the fabric Marea Familiar ( Family Tide ) made of polyester fibre, cotton mesh, thread, metal and coral from Samana Bay ( Dominican Republic) inspired by her reading of "Centering in Pottery Poetry and Person" by the poet, ceramist and writer María Caroline Richards ( 1916- 1999). Woven thread is shown as a ceramic, almost stony element, related to a piece of coral hanging from the wall at 104 cm high, just the height of her belly button, focusing on her origins and corporal relationship with her sculptures. Julia Aurora Guzmán Laura obtained a BFA (Summa Cum Laude) in Sculpture from the San Francisco Art Institute (USA) in 2016. Guzmán has exhibited her work in the Dominican Republic, Brazil, the United States, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. She was one of three finalists for the Tilting Axis Fellowship | Netherlands 2020 has been selected to participate in the Sundaymorning Ceramic Artist Residency @ EKWC (Oisterwijk, NL), (September - December 2020)

**Jorge Julve:** ( Castellón, 1989) We are also starting a collaboration with this painter, showing the oil Mirar libro, leer pintura ( Looking at books, reading painting ) formally and theoretically related to the book " La intimidad como espectáculo " ( The spectacle of Intimacy ) by the Argentinean anthropologist and essay writer Paula Sibila. As Julve himself explains " we read and understand the contents intuitively, often without the need to read the texts, simply with a quick glance, basing on already learnt codes. Something similar happens when we look at a painting, there is a series of known elements that help, reinforce and let us understand and enjoy what we are looking at. The work I'm displaying for the show " Books in Art" develops from the image of an extract from the book "The spectacle of Intimacy" by P. Sibila where she talks about the evolution of book and the way we read. The idea of the work is the relationship between reading and painting, taking it from the visual to the pictorial field. The painting is read and the book is looked at.". Jorge Julve received in 2017 the Håbitat Artístico Castelló Grant, GlogauAir Artist in Residence Program, Berlin and his work is present in the Generalitat Valenciana Collection and the DKV Collection, among others

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**Ignacio Llamas:** ( Toledo, 1970) We are showing the installation Desgarros (Tears) made of 11 books, setting up a dialogue between a photographic image, which acts as content, hosted by a book, which acts as medium. With the book Llamas wants to provide the image with volume, moving it away from its two-dimensional trait and making it into a sculptural object. This relationship is not limited to form. The book is not a chance choice as it gives new content to the image, especially making it clear that an image is a source of wisdom and an artistic image is a source of deep knowledge. Ignacio Llamas graduated in Fine Arts at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. His work has been exhibited in many museums, such as el Patio Herreriano, DA2, MACA, MEIAC, Museo Unión Fenosa, MuseiCivici di Cagliari, Galata Museo de Génova, Museo Santa Cruz de Toledo, etc. His work appears in many public and private collections and he has won numerous awards and prizes. At ARCO16 he was awarded the prize for the author of the best work presented by a living Spanish artist by AECA, an association of critics.

**Edgar Martins:** ( Evorá, Portugal, 1977) The series This is not a house was not initially thought as just another series by Martins. It was an order by The New York Times Magazine to illustrate, in an economic publication, articles about the real estate crisis in 2007 in different states of North America. Martins travelled through eight states taking pictures of buildings, of whole neighbourhoods which were never ended or inhabited. Martins' eagerness to stress the terrible problem caused for thousands of people, took him to digitally manipulate some of the photographs to give them a greater dramatic impact. The photos were published and withdrawn soon afterwards, when The New York Times discovered this, according to Martins, minor manipulation, as they intended the photographs to take account of the situation, without the intervention of the artist. So Martins decided to make a whole series titled This is not a house to draw attention to his work and the problems caused by this crisis. Paradoxically, and due to this controversy with the publisher, this series has had one of the most significant international impacts and is shown in many collections and museums. Martins has received many awards such as the New York Photography Award in 2008, the BES Photo Prize in 2009, the Sony World Photography Award in 2009 and in 2018, he also won the First Prize at the 2010 International Photography Awards, in the Fine Art Abstract category.

**Linarejos Moreno:** (Madrid, 1974) In Moreno's work the handling of books has set off projects based on a thoughtful practice of photography which, expanded to the exhibition space, takes the form of installations. That was the case of her artistic undertaking of the books Urformen der Kunst (Karl Blossfeldt, 1929) [1], Punkt und Linie zu Fläche, (Vasili Kandinsky, 1926 [2]), Things a boy can do with electricity (Alfred Morgan, 1938) or the General Ledger from the family factory where she's been years sketching and making records of her installations; its functional lines were also underlying her two latest exhibitions. : StopVuelvoProntoStop, ( StopBackSoonStop) 2019-2020 y Partida Doble( Double Entry),2019. The show includes some of her drawings on paper made in the general ledger. Linarejos Moreno has received the Fulbright scholarship, the First international Prize for Photography by Purificación García, the First DKV-Estampa Prize, the First ABC Prize for Painting and Photography, the scholarship from the French Ministry of Education: Casa de Velázquez, the 'Iniciarte' grant, la Muestra de Arte Joven, Generaciones and the Transart Foundation for Art and Anthropology in Houston Prize.

**Daniel Verbis:** (León, 1968) A composition of 15 paintings about end sheets titled " El que guarda su boca guarda su alma" ( He who keeps a watch on his mouth keeps his life) is the work Verbis proposes for this exhibition. It's made of " quatered" books; he forgets his education and teaching, shakes the words and images so that time wipes them off and makes them ruins in our memory. The books "unfold forever like the colourful wings of a butterfly or the harmless prints of a Rorschach test. They are the same books, but empty, stunned, made of mirrored expressions that take us back to the tough time of childhood, the stage before the mirror stage, when everything was steam, smell, honey, treacle, a heaven of laughter and tears, a language of lights and shadows, a language of spots...". Daniel Verbis is a Graduate of Fine Art from the Universidad de Salamanca. Verbis has exhibited in many galleries and public institutions, amongst which the following stand out: the CAB de Burgos (2004), MUSAC de León (2006), Patio Herreriano de Valladolid (2013), Sala Amós Salvador in Logroño (2016), DA2 de Salamanca (2018). His works may be found in private and public collections, such as the Banco de España Collection, Coca-Cola Foundation, Unión Fenosa Collection, the Town Council of Alcobendas, Caja Madrid Collection, CGAC Collection, L'Oreal Collection, Folkwang Museum (Germany), Reina Sofia National Museum Collection, AENA Collection, PAMM Collection (Jorge Pérez, Miami), amongst others.

For more information and photographs feel free to contact the gallery: Galería Daniel Cuevas Tf.: 00 34 91 308 15

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