

JERONIMO VILLA

Colombia, 1990

In Jeronimo Villa's work, three major subjects emerge: impossibility, time and death. Impossibility is depicted by means of denying function and highlighting that which is impossible, chronicling tensions and glorifying contrasts. Time and death are expressed by rescuing found objects from neglect and oblivion. This results in volumetric pieces composed of materials and stories, that tend to convey a certain nostalgia for their former self. Jeronimo Villa adopts derelict objects, intervenes their shape and their forgotten function, and puts together structures where geometry is clearly expressed. He often finds his raw materials in the street. More than being just abandoned, these objects bear scars of human violence, of the elements' impact, and of the nature of the material. They seem resolved to cease being themselves and become the friction between time and oblivion. Next to a sewer, lying against a lamp pole or sharing the space with the stench of urine, the collection of these *nameless objects* is curated mostly by passion. They are gradually included in an inventory that is free from disdain and which negates desolation.

The liaison between life and death is the conceptual backbone of the work. It is the source from where it evolves. Found objects were dead in life and now are celebrated and implemented within a sculptural and conceptual process.

Chairs, furniture, blinds, tree-trunks, windows and an assortment of intervened objects are frozen in time. Some others are embedded or have had things embedded in them, like a memory that is lodged in time. Books, strings, wood, paint and fire, a full dialogue between materials and objects. The work embraces the *nameless objects* and baptizes them with a new order that converses with space and offers mature narratives; an order that is consolidated in sculpture, in painting, and mostly, in poetry. The object is now a memory, a past that is engraved in the work. Time has stopped and left behind still scenes that elude death and recount just a tiny fraction of what they have ceased to be.

In different ways, and through different means, the work expresses a longing for a time gone by, like the function that is no more, or the scar that the past left on the material.

SOLO SHOWS

- 2022 Tiempos sin asperezas, BEATRIZ ESGUERRA ARTE, Bogota, Colombia
- 2020 Instrumentos para la proximidad parcial, GALERIA LA COMETA, Bogotá, Colombia. (Dúo)
- 2016 Sinnombres, GALERIA BETA, Bogotá, Colombia. (Dúo)
- 2015 El Sufrimiento, GALERIA CHRISTOPHER PASCHALL, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2014 Tiempo, espacio, objeto y movimiento, MUSEO DE ARTE DEL TOLIMA, Ibagué, Colombia.
- 2014 Impacto, GALERIA LGM, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2013 ACUERDO, GALERIA NUEVEOCHENTA, Bogotá, Colombia.

GROUP SHOWS

- 2022 Art on Paper NY Fair, Beatriz Esguerra Art, New York, NY
- 2021 Conversaciones en pequeño formato, Beatriz Esguerra Arte, Bogota, Colombia
- 2020 En la mira, GALERIA LA COMETA, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2019 Alumni show, PCA GALLERY, IL, USA.
- 2016 Hilemorfismos, GALERIA LA COMETA, Bogotá, Colombia.

- 2015 VIII Salón Arte Joven, EL NOGAL, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2015 Gravitacional, Galería Camenea, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2014 Premio Grau, CASA GRAU, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2014 Sin título II, Galería LGM, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2014 The Secret, CERO GALERIA, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2014 Arte a las 7, CENTRO CULTURAL EMBAJADA DE ESPAÑA, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2013 Digressions & Detours, CURATOR'S VOICE GALLERY, Miami, USA.
- 2013 Barrio Bienal, MUSEO DE ARTE MODERNO DE BOGOTA, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2013 Línea y Figura, GALERIA LGM, Caracas, Venezuela.
- 2013 Bienal DESDE AQUI, MUSEO DE ARTE MODERNO DE BUCARAMANGA, Bucaramanga, Colombia.
- 2013 Colectiva, NARANJO & VELILLA, Medellín, Colombia.
- 2013 Travesías Textiles, CASA DE LA CULTURA, Punta del Este, Uruguay.
- 2012 Moving Pictures, PCA GALLERY, Illinois, USA.
- 2012 Vernitaje, PCA GALLERY, Illinois, USA.
- 2012 Colectiva, CERO GALERIA, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2012 Rare Air, PCA GALLERY, Illinois, USA.
- 2011 In Family Unity – Unity of the World, EKATERINBURG, Moscow, Rusia.
- 2011 LOPROPIO, GALERIA EL GARAJE, Bogotá, Colombia.

DISTINCTIONS

- 2014 Primer puesto Escultura, PREMIO GRAU, Bogotá, Colombia.
- 2012 FULL A-I-R SCHOLARSHIP, Prairie Center of the Arts, Illinois, USA.
- 2011 FULL SCHOLARSHIP, Artula Environmental Arts, Oregon, USA.