
Mücsarnok Kunsthalle in Budapest will show from March 2009 *Mi Vida. From Heaven to Hell. Life experiences in art from MUSAC Collection*, a big exhibition of works from the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León



Title: *Mi Vida. From Heaven to Hell. Life experiences in art from MUSAC Collection*

Venue: Mücsarnok Kunsthalle, Budapest

Dates: 27/03/09 - 17/05/09

Curators: Agustín Pérez Rubio - Zsolt Petrányi

Coordination MUSAC: Carlos Ordás

Coordination Mücsarnok: Gábor Döme

The biggest exhibition of MUSAC Collection shown up until today outside the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León will take place between March and May, 2009 at Mücsarnok Kunsthalle in Budapest. Under the title *Mi Vida. From Heaven to Hell. Life experiences in art from MUSAC Collection*, the show will exhibit a selection of works which stress the relations between art and life from different standpoints. More than forty artists will show their works in approximately 2.500 square meters. Thus, *Mi Vida...* joins previous shows of MUSAC Collection in institutions like Santalístambul (Istambul) or MACUF (A Coruña, Spain); fairs like Paris Photo (Paris); or festivals like Hay Festival (Segovia) or Benicàssim International Festival.

Life itself has always been the centerpoint of artistic expression. Through different ages artists have reflected their experiences and opinions through their artworks. This character as a phenomena is the key to understanding art: the things we see are somehow related to the life we lead.

The exhibition *Mi Vida* shows contemporary pieces which underline this relation between art and life from different standpoints and interests. The works, which are all coming from MUSAC Collection in Leon, bring together two points of view, the hedonist and psychological nature of the everyday life with decisive factors such as geographical, historical and political circumstances under which conflicts and existential problems are the center of life.

Our world is divided in two different extremes. In one of them the economical possibilities of the individual enable a career where quality and investment give the prospect of a future, while on the other half the present tense is the only reference point and every other factors are ephemeral or non-planable. These two contradictory status often coexist in one geographical point of the globe, as they are note defined geographically, but they define the horizon of what we call human existence.

The show is constructed by different standpoints, as we believe that the aforementioned „extremes” are not isolated poles, we are inviting the visitor to a journey where the differences can

be seen, as well as parallelisms and contradictions. This way, in the first rooms we aim to create a series of positive statements through works by Pipilotti Rist, as a paradox of a new Paradise, Kimsooja with her calm installation or Tabaimo with her human tattoo landscape. Also in this part of the exhibition the visitor will find „Brighten your mind”, the positive slogan by Emese Benczur, Jesper Just and his emotive exteriorization of the feelings, as well as *Mother* by Candice Breitz , not to forget the social project-piece by Alicia Framis.

Following this part of the exhibition, we find other rooms where statements become more ambiguous and pain and pleasure engage in a conversation the same way they do in our daily life. Thus, hedonist aspects present in the pieces by Ángel Marcos or Massimo Vitali confront this vital landscape with political aspects in Zhan Huan's works or Carmela Garcia's fictionalized female world. It is also interesting to observe institutions as the family and relationships: friends, partners, couples, etc. have a critical treatment in the works by Enrique Marty, Tracey Moffat, MP & MP Rosado, Muntean/Roseblum and Ryan McGinley, together with more nostalgic works which reflect experience or the effects of time, as in the case of Carles Congost or Wolfgang Tillmans.

The following room will allow the spectator to contemplate the bizarre and absurd world of human obsessions, reflected with brutality and hilarity by the drawings by Marcel Dzama, Fernando Renes or Alvaro Oyarzun. This way, in opposition to the first rooms, *Mi Vida* reaches a point where critical statements about the human condition, showing these aspects on a wide variety of media and contents. These are the rooms dedicated to violence or the fight for women's rights, in the pieces by Joana Vasconcelos, Abigail Lazkoz, Shirin Neshat, Marina Abramovich and above all, the last big room of the show, where the piece *UN Miniature* by Thomas Hirschhorn will be displayed. Around this piece other works will be shown, which reflect the brutality of the war like Simeon Saiz Ruiz in his media-painting of Kosovo or the photographs by Ángel de la Rubia about Balcan war, not to forget the Irak images by Luc Delhaye. There will also be other works that show diverse political and social contexts within the past and the present by Fernando Sanchez Castillo, Zwelethu Mentewtua or Cristina Garcia Rodero.

This end of the exhibition, on the one hand gives *Mi Vida* the opportunity to show the most aggressive and brutal part of the human condition, but it also communicates a small reflect of hope, of help and friendship, because it is the moral and ethics of the artist which are mirrored through his/her works. Therefore, at the end, all the angles and viewpoints create a whole. It is important to take into account that the works displayed in this exhibition communicate a message that rises above the particular facts the individual works are speaking about: the general moral values of humanity in which there are no differences and counterparts.

This way, *Mi Vida* is conceived not just as an exhibition of the works form a collection, nor as a show of individual pieces, but as a proposition, through an artistic discourse, of awareness about the world we live in, about the present and how we deal with it.

ARTISTS IN EXHIBITION:

- ALICIA FRAMIS
- EMESE BENCZÚR
- PIPILOTTI RIST
- TABAIMO
- JESPER JUST
- KIMSOOJA
- CANDICE BREITZ
- CARLES CONGOST
- MUNTEAN / ROSEMBLUM
- WOLFGANG TILLMANS
- RYAN MCGUINLEY
- MP & MP ROSADO
- ENRIQUE MARTY
- TRACEY MOFFAT

- ANGEL MARCOS
- MASSIMO VITALI
- CARMELA GARCIA
- ZHANG HUAN
- FERNANDO RENES
- MARCEL DZAMA
- ALVARO OYARZUN
- JOANA VASCONCELOS
- ABIGAIL LAZKOZ
- SHIRIN NESHAT
- MARINA ABRAMOVIC
- THOMAS HIRSCHHORN
- LUC DELAHAYE
- SIMEON SAIZ RUIZ
- ANGEL DE LA RUBIA
- CRISTINA GARCIA RODERO
- FERNANDO SANCHEZ CASTILLO
- ZWELETHU MTHETHWA

ARTISTS WHICH COMPLETE THE SHOW IN OTHER SPACES:

- DORA GARCIA
- JULIAN OPIE
- MOTOIKO ODANI
- JON MIKEL EUBA

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DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN**

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