

# Galeria Estrany-de la Mota

<http://www.estranydelamota.com/>

Passatge Mercader 18  
08008 Barcelona, Spain  
T +34 93 215 70 51

## Jean-Marc Bustamante. New Works

Opening: Friday, September 15th 2006, 19.00 p.m.

Exhibition: 15.09.2006 – 04.11.2006. Tuesday to Saturdays from 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

In an interview some years ago, Jean-Marc Bustamante (Toulouse, 1952) said that his work was but a constant craving after the truth. The pictures he was starting to create at that moment, the early eighties, avoided anything out of the field of view and concentrated in any spaces that, although fragmented, represented a whole for him. The subjects of these pictures were building sites, transitory spaces, city limits or undefined areas. They all suggested tension between industry and the environment, a recurrent theme in Bustamante's work, by showing all kinds of views not generally regarded as relevant, as well as apparently banal landscapes, which were perceived as static and even insipid, almost abstract. This work, entitled *Tableaux*, pictured, among other locations, some of the suburb districts of Barcelona between 1978 and 1984. With it, Jean-Marc Bustamante took part in one of his first exhibitions in our country, which took place in this gallery.

Ten years later, season opens again with him to exhibit his last works, created after his presence in the 2003 *Venice Biennale* representing France. At first glance, these works seem to have very little in common with his early series although they are not really that far apart. We are not talking about photographs, although they do have in common with *Tableaux* the fact that images do not seem to show anything special. Any highlights, any scopes. In the same way, the first *Lumière* he created on the late eighties-early nineties work, in which one could recognise specific images, they already anticipated the way in which, by means of schematic drawing and monochrome surface, the artist treats space as something abstract and creates certain dimensions where links between mental perception and real space can be established.

The works contained in the series *Panorama* (2005), *Trophées* (2005) and *Perfect Dreams* (2005), that are exhibited here are all colour silk screen on plexiglas. In the series *Panorama*, which he is developing since 1997-98, the image is a drawing created by the artist. By contrast, in the series *Trophees*, the drawing appears on steel, which is superimposed on monochrome plexiglas. Colour has been specifically created for each piece. *Perfect Dreams* stands in the middle, as it is a hybrid of both series. In it, drawing has been made directly on the underlying plexiglas as well as on the steel on top. In this fashion, the artist plays with three different ways of creating image levels, which he uses to dwell on the effect of spacial indetermination, which all of these works have in common, and which results in an abstract space for mental projection.

This phenomenon is a cause and, at the same time, an effect of the suspension that affects all images in these works. This leaves all responsibility to the observer, who will decide the kind of relationship to be established with these works. In spite of the artist's intention to produce something highly unstable and very plastically present, they will come across as almost abstract, as it happens with the photographic landscapes by the same author. All of these works find a state of transition in themselves. Through them, the artist aims at finding an object substantial enough to become an object of thought. That which the artist defines as a mental image derived from perfect dreams, and from changing worlds.

With the support of:



ASSOCIACIÓ DE GALERISTES INDEPENDENTS  
D'ART DE CATALUNYA

\*For further information and/or images contact to [galeria@estranydelamota.com](mailto:galeria@estranydelamota.com).