

Galeria Estrany-de la Mota

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Natividad Bermejo. Look Left/Look Right

Opening: Wednesday, December 17th 2008, 19.00 p.m.

Exhibition: 17.12.08 – 21.02.09. Tuesday to Saturdays from 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

Nati Bermejo (Logroño 1961) has been chosen to close and open year within the gallery program, after her last exhibition, a big individual show in the centre CAB of Burgos.

At first sight the heterogeneity of her drawings appear to be linked only by the technique, graphite, pastel and *gouache* on paper, the large format, the sobriety, and this sensation that follows, as a pledge of dejection, which reaches us to refer to the baroque and the tenebrism. Characteristic of the artist for which she is more known.

The Rhizomatical distribution of the parts respond to the need to emphasize the simultaneous character of the various events represented while being part of a cosmological whole, an interest always present in her work.

Samples seemingly harmless, detail images next to photography, sometimes as mimetic, that are almost abstract. But after this innocent looking hide a cryptic reading announced by these small signs; and that once developed to a larger scale, the topics, events and consequences they entail (and to which reference is made), makes one realize the anguish embodied in everything around him in the exhibition space.

That's why Bermejo requests the complicity of those who recognize the facts of what we are talking about, hence the importance of the titles in the reading of the works, and the show in general. Descriptive and often contextualizing the place it is about, to make us see that even in the geographical distance there is a temporary and causal link of this feeling of unease.

How communication dialogs with insulation in the contemporary world. How we are able to know what is talked about without having lived, without having seen, without having ever set foot in the places about which talk the daily news.

Thus, the works of Nati Bermejo are based on an analysis of the present, using images that have appeared in the newspapers to illustrate the news day by day, which she interweaves thematically and formally. Turning the balance in favour of the concept instead of the poetics, more prevalent in her previous work.

In the show stand out references to the war in Iraq, in what will be the fifth year of conflict; as well as other unfortunate anniversaries: the seventy years of the *Night of Broken Glass*; or other somewhat more graceful as the hundred and ten years of the discovery of the first image of the radiation by Mme Curie Radium.

Other events such as the death of scientists Edward N. Lorenz¹ and John Archibald Wheeler² the past month of April; the conflict between China and the region of Tibet and the attention of the media raised on the occasion of the Olympic games; the financial crisis represented with an

image of London which warns us to pay attention to what might come; a set of hints of attention alerting us.

Rarely we see a human figure in her drawings. Chiaroscuro formed by the direct reference to society, the key to this presence-absence of that which makes us fear what surrounds us. Whether it comes from nature, as if it is derived from man. Careful observation is uncomfortable with a view to a horizon so hopeless.

¹ Mathematician and American meteorologist, pioneer in the development of the theory of the chaos and coiner of the term "Effect butterfly".

² An American theoretical physicist, one of the pioneers in the nuclear fission. He coins terms as "black hole" and "wormhole".

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