

ABA Art Contemporani presents:

SILENCE

The ABA Art Group Show

Artists participating:

Petrina Hicks - Iratxe Larrea - Iris Schomaker - María Isabel Uribe - Emmanuelle Villard

PRESS CONFERENCE: Wednesday, 19th of September 2007 10:00am

Opening NIT DE L'ART: Thursday, 20th of September 2007 from 8:00pm

Exhibition: 20th of September 2007 – 3th of November 2007

In a world where urban noises are constantly enclosing us, places of silence are rarely to find. How to define silence? There exist multiple forms of silence: the absence of noise, the incapacity of communication, the space between the words or the sounds, or the necessity to remain in silence...

ABA ART CONTEMPORANI invites you kindly to experience the SILENCE from the perspective of five young, international, female artists:

IRIS SCHOMAKER (Germany), **EMMANUELLE VILLARD** (France), **IRATXE LARREA** (Spain), **PETRINA HICKS** (Australia), **MARÍA ISABEL URIBE** (Colombia).

What can represent noise? What signifies silence? What is the value of silence? Sometimes the noises of the words overshadow the voice of the thought. Silence is the force behind intelligence, clear and calm silence gives to the intellect a true foresight. Silence is revealing; it is to exist in pure state. Silence as expression of the existence is so eloquent that all these noises will disturb us to find and know ourselves. The value of the silence that resides between the words and the thoughts is the source of inspiration of our intelligence, silence is purifying.

SILENCE please!!! A library. A bench surrounded by nature. To cover your ears. An empty museum. A quiet moment in the city. To meditate... When was your last moment of silence? Silence has been transformed into a rare state that on the other hand is searched for by everybody. Still we continue speaking, making cheers of excitement, laughing, shouting, listening to music, watching the television and at the same time we do not remember that there are moments without noise,



Lauren eyes closed, PETRINA HICKS, 2003



Sin titulo, IRATXE LARREA, 2006



Paint it black, EMMANUELLE VILLARD, 2007



Recuerdos infames, MARÍA ISABEL URIBE, 2007



Sin título, IRIS SCHOMAKER, 2007

uproar, murmur and tumult. We forget about the moment that gives us space to think rest and gather new energy.

The exhibition we are presenting today tries to let the silence speak, through manifestations which more or less make the silence visible. The Exhibition shows Silence in a nonverbal language in the form of painting, with photographs, installations and other materials like paper, plastic, fabric, cotton thread, fine steel and wood...

Iris Schomaker normally paints on big size papers. She uses a sketch technique which gives it a fresh result. Within this technique she leaves the layers of liquid oil transparent. By using a pallet of soft colors she offers us a series of faces with an intense gaze; they observe and reflect absolute silence. In those faces we recognize the language of silence that reflects without words, their emotions and their feelings.

Emmanuelle Villard presents the installation "Paint it Black" to us. The installation plays with the words around the themes 'what is left' and 'what remains'. We can imagine the painting was liquid, that it could slip drill and leave the frame and the wall. In this case the painting did left the wall, only leaving a basic black circle form, "a silhouette". The "body" of the painting is in a suspended piece of the ceiling, as if it was being dried. This piece allegorically has been dripping leaving marks in the form of rugs of metallic embroiders, located on the ground.

Iratxe Larrea investigates the world of the woman. The house represents the affection and emotional part of the individual; it symbolizes a more intimate space. The installation is made with small parts sewn together which form a wall made out of stuffed bricks of cotton. This wall refers to the visual shield of the house, the physical construction, the difference between the interior and outside. The wall is at the same time the skin and the border of the house.

Petrina Hicks delights us with photographs from the series "Lauren". Her works extend to a simple resemblance. Their faces seem frozen, not known but at the same time near and warm. They give the idea of eternal youth that reaches the thought of the image of a universal human being, between the perfection and the imperfection.

María Isabel Uribe gives back the voices of the memories that were extinguished in silence. For the installation titled "Recuerdos infames"/ "Infamous memories", María torn apart black and white photographs and encapsulated them into a vacuum of time, as if she conserved them for eternity.

We hope our visitors enjoy these moments of rest when they come across this small tribute to silence.