

kurimanzutto
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kurimanzutto presents

DANIEL GUZMÁN

la búsqueda del ombligo: dibujos 2005 - 2007
opening thursday, september 6th, 2007, 8 - 10 p.m.



Decapitado, de la serie La búsqueda del ombligo, 2007, tinta sobre papel montado en panel de madera, 210 x 180 x 3.5 cm

September 7th - October 6th, 2007

juan de la barrera # 116 col. condesa - méxico d.f.
opened from Thursday to Saturday, 10-3 y 4-6

“La búsqueda del ombligo” (The search of the navel) is a series of twenty-eight large-format diptychs produced from 2005 to 2007, in which Daniel Guzmán develops —through the medium of drawing— a research about the series ‘La verdad’ (The truth), 1945 by José Clemente Orozco.

The usage of high contrast allows Guzmán to synthesize the characteristics of Orozco’s work, whose ‘first-attempt’ drawing, leave exposed textures, strokes, and expression, where figure, gesture and matter become integrated. One element to stress from **“La búsqueda del ombligo”** is the format and the way Guzman approaches to it: the middle line that separates both wings of each diptych, along with the geometric centre are structures around which the forms articulate or confront.

Although the juxtaposition of image and text has been a constant feature in Daniel Guzmán work, in this series it is worthy to point out the absence of verbal referents as part of the composition; however, the titles become progressively more specific and connoted regarding the provenance of the figures, characters and situations involved in each piece.

Guzmán fuses and transmutes a number of historic and iconographic references: Aztec gods, superheroes, illustrations of rock albums, diverse characters from Mexican comic strips of the sixties and seventies, from the current political cartoons, and from the movies.

Satire and violence merge in this work in which mutilated bodies turn into landscapes, the landscapes become atmospheres, and the atmospheres transform into visual exclamations. At the same time it exists a notable set of contrasts beyond the chromatic one already mentioned; the geometry associated with monumental forms (particularly in Pre-Hispanic sculpture) opposes to the accidental in organic shapes.

“La búsqueda del ombligo” constitutes an exploration towards the possible representations of a certain origin from different perspectives: chronological, metaphysical, cultural, or individual.

Daniel Guzmán (México D.F., 1964)

Solo exhibitions: *Double Album: Daniel Guzmán and Steven Shearer*, New Museum, Nueva York (april 2008); *Lost & Found*, kurimanzutto, Mexico City (2006); *Daniel Guzmán. The Bakery*, Annet Gelink Gallery, Amsterdam (2004); *Thieves Like Us*, Lombard-Freid Fine Arts, New York (2004); *New York Groove*, Trans, New York (2004); *Sleeping on the roof*, kurimanzutto @ Carlos B. Zetina tenement, México (2002); *Daniel Guzmán. Hijo de tu puta madre (ya sé quien eres, te he estado observando)*, kurimanzutto, Mexico (2001). Group exhibitions: *The Exotic Journey Ends*, kurimanzutto and Foksal Gallery Foundation, Warsaw, Poland (2006); *Escultura Social: A New Generation of Art from México City*, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (2007); *Playback*, Musée d’Art Moderne de la ville de Paris, France (2007); *35th International Film Festival Rotterdam*, Holanda (2006); *Local Stories*, Modern Art Oxford, Reino Unido (2006); *After the Act*, Museum Moderner Kunst, Vienna, Austria (2005); *September Back Up: Come Closer*, Isola Art Center, Milan, Italia (2005); *I Quotidiano Alterato*, 50 Venice Biennale, Italy (2003); *Permanencia voluntaria*, kurimanzutto y Cinemanía Plaza Loreto, Mexico (2000); *Economía de mercado*, kurimanzutto – Mercado Medellín, Mexico (1999). Since 2005, member of “sistema nacional de creadores (CONACULTA-FONCA)”.