

DUALITY

Santiago Villanueva | Silke Natschke

"Art is duplicity, the law of art is the law of duality, the law of duality derives from the duality of life."

Baudelaire

The exhibit Duality features two international artists, Santiago Villanueva (Madrid, 1964) and Silke Natschke (Frankfurt, 1971) who, starting from the theme of duplicity, compare through different techniques and sensibilities, to highlight the dual soul of the art.

Equally divided between matter and concept, the duality in their works is given by the fascination of form and the depth of meaning.

The exhibit route starts with a selection of works by the Spanish sculptor Santiago Villanueva, whose research is based on the empirical approach to the materials. In the hands of the artist, the material is shaped and manipulated until reaching a tactile and visual harmony. Villanueva creates true emotional containers with bright colors and compact shapes, made of polystyrene and polyester resin with additions of strident pigments and wrapped in a thin glossy lacquered patina.

On display five sculptures from the "Ellipse" series, beside, the site specific sculpture "Elipgota Roja". Works with ellipsoidal shapes in which the work begins and ends at no specific point, being in a Balanced Imbalance.

Beauty is an essential interlocutor in the work of Villanueva, where the duality is expressed through the relationship between the visual experience of the body and the intimate perception of it.

"I do not try to provoke only a visual pleasure or a tactile experience, but to stimulate desire, to seduce the observer until he enters the object and perceives the emotion he proposes."

The exhibition continues through the installation *"Two Faces"* by the German artist Silke Natschke, who interprets the theme of double and reflection within abstraction.

The result of a research deeply influenced by philosophical and literary concepts, the artist, through the use of different materials, in particular resins and mirrors, creates works in which, in each single work, two different faces coexist. There is no hierarchy, ie there is no front and back, but both parts represent the whole.

The creative process develops through the use of different colors freed from their traditional canons, in which the dominant feature is the contrast between one side and the other of every single work. Aesthetically, the two parts are divergent, yet they converge and establish a dialogue between Ego and Soul.

Silke's works evoke the ambiguity of the human state; reflection through the mirror offers space for an excursion into questions about Reality and the Appearance of it.

"A work of art is made entirely by those who look at it. Yet, it's the artwork that makes those who watch it."

Marcel Duchamp