PINTA LONDON 2012

Pinta’s press release sates that: “In the midst of the remarkable boom of Latin American art in the context of international art collecting, Pinta London 2012 celebrates its third edition broadening its concept and scope. In this way it updates the historical, geopolitical and artistic past of Latin America and showcases the present horizon through curatorships, alliances and events that approach the field of modern and contemporary visual creation through an inclusive and visionary perspective. Pinta London 2012 reactivates that moment of incomparable expansion of the territory of imagination derived from the encounter between the Old and the New World, incorporating in its prestigious exhibition of Latin American art modern and contemporary Spanish and Portuguese art.”

Some of the highlights, in historic terms, of this edition are great pioneers of Surrealism in Mexico, such as Leonora Carrington, born in England, and Alice Rahon, born in France, but also the Spanish artist Carmen Calvo, whose work extends the surrealist legacy to contemporary art. Besides exhibiting Latin American masters representing the different currents of "cold" geometric abstraction − like the Argentine artists Julio Le Parc, Juan Melé or Marta Boto; the Uruguayan Carmelo Arden Quin; the Venezuelans Jesús Soto, Omar Carreño and Carlos Cruz-Diez; the Brazilians Waldemar Cordeiro and Waltercio Caldas; the Colombians Carlos Rojas and Omar Rayo; or the Cuban artists Loló Soldevilla and Carmen Herrera, among others − Pinta London includes the participation of Spanish artists from different groups who adhered to geometric art (termed "normative") moving away from the predominance of informalism.

Another important addition this year was the participation of the legendary Lygia Clark (1920-1988) without whom it is impossible to conceive Neo-concrete art in Brazil, the explorations which defined the ultimate meaning of her art, those participatory performances that generated unifying human networks, are less known. Alison Jacques Gallery will feature "re-performances" that constitute a healing collective experience.

On the other hand, with support from the Government of Chile, the fair will present a synthesizing vision of the work of Matilde Pérez (1916), who since the mid-twentieth century became oriented towards geometry and later, in Paris, became involved with the G.R.A.V. (Groupe de Recherche d'Art Visuel), exploring Op and Kinetic art. The exhibition "Open Cube" will include works in different media and a luminous volume that attains full existence through the perceptive experience of the public.

The images below includes: Henrique Farias Fine Arts with historic pieces by Claudio Perna and Marta Minujin, among others; the colorful abstract paintings by Argentinian artist Graciela Hasper at Zavaleta Lab; Ricardo Alcaide’s combination of painting, photography and tridimensional works with Baro; Maddox Arts with the monochromatic big scale paintings by Emilia Sunyer and the photos Lucía Pizzani at the famous Villa Planchart house by Gio Ponti in Caracas. In the Solo Projects, curated for the third time by Pablo Leon de la Barra, find here images of Bubu Negrón’s Piano bar with Roberto Paradise, Pedro Terán with Diego Barboza showing their seventies conceptualism works, made while they where living in London at that time, with Henrique Farias Fine Arts and Felipe Mujica’s silk screen prints with Christinger de Mayo. Other projects included: Laureana Toledo’s newspaper billboards with TJ Boulting, Manuela Ribadeneira’s installation “El Arte de Navegar” with Casa Triangulo and Matheus Rocha Pitta with Sproveri, among others.

Another interesting activity offered by the fair was the public program, a joint effort between Pinta, ESCALA and England & Co. gallery. It was curated and coordinated by Miriam Metliss and Iberia Pérez González with additional support from Valeria Paz Moscoso.

Also supporting the fair were the institutions collaborating with the successful Acquisitions Program based on the matching funds system. This year, at Pinta London, the Centre Georges Pompidou, the Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, MIMA, Tate Modern, and the University of Essex Collection of Latin American Art enriched their permanent collections through the incorporation of new pivotal works, not only from the modernist past in Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula, but also from their contemporary art under permanent construction.