

## LUIS ÚRCULO

### ***BUGATTI VEYRON, CHEVROLET BEL AIR, LANCIA ASTURA (LEARNING FROM KARAOKE)***

“Stop reading these characters. The twenty-nine of them (including spaces) that your eyes have registered before the first full stop are enough. The precise substance, the indicated object to get immersed in this exhibition, is in your hands, you just have to stop doing whatever you are doing and start to manipulate the piece of paper, start transforming it partially into something else: simple and imperfect spheres – immediate sculptures – are welcome. Above all, in the meantime: Doubt the information!”

Víctor Palacios

Galería Max Estrella has the pleasure to present Luis Úrculo's first solo project at our space thanks an exhibition that, as his artistic corpus suggests, shows works made using different formats, which are apparently dissimilar and unrelated, such as videos, drawings, acoustic pieces or actions with objects.

Exactly, “... (*Learning from Karaoke*)” is the tangible and artistic result of an intimate analysis, even domestic, orchestrated by the memories and experiences of the artist. The exhibition explores the morphology and phenomenology that underlies each work and, at the same time, scrutinizes the behaviour of the materials that form them.

Following up the words of the curator Víctor Palacios: “The work of Luis Úrculo can be compared to what in botany is known as concrescence. The different aspects of his artistic practice sprout simultaneously and thus generate an indivisible body; architecture, drawing, photography, installation, audio, video, performances, among other “parts” are combined in a sole statement or aesthetic position. This amalgam of media and disciplines allows Úrculo to open to the possibility of camouflaging and seducing through subtle conjuring tricks of invisible-reality. This is what defines, essentially, his contemporary work.

How many corridors did Robert Walser go through to get to how many rooms? Who greeted the spectators from the right rear seat of that flamboyant Hongqui Red Flag of 1958 while passing by a roundabout adorned with Washington palm trees and *Carebara bengalensis* ants?

Do not feel overwhelmed if you do not know the answers...there are clues in front of you: Mesoamerican ballgames, cigarette brands, piano displacements, a deflating polka dot

balloon, a meticulous list of works of art whose author has been beheaded, diverse plastics in movement, tools, key erasures. Walser and Úrculo (both assistants of renowned inventors and deeply disturbed schizophrenics) shares, besides, a weird taste for visualizing information and, just like that...turn it into something else, another sort of substance.

Before throwing your sphere into the void, quietly say: "Reading is and act". Georges Perec.

**Luis Úrculo** (Madrid, 1978) lives and works currently between Madrid and Mexico DF. During his whole artistic career he has shown a sharp interest in the processes, flexibility and creative ability of architecture, understood as a place of fiction. This discipline is able to adapt its object of study to the project's composition, creating, thus, new and unexpected scenes and expectative.

2015 has been a prolific year in his career, having enjoyed the opportunity not only of being part of the group exhibition *Reconstructions: Recent Photography and Video in the Met Collection*, Nueva York, EEUU; but also of increasing the permanent collection of the *Metropolitan Museum* of New York, institution that has just acquired his works *Reconstructions pt.1 & pt.2*.

Recently, he has participated in other group exhibitions such as *Chatter*, Art Institute Chicago, Chicago, US; *Unseen daily Life*, Tokyo Wonder Site, Tokyo, Japan. Among his solo exhibitions are remarkable ones like: *Estados de Reposo*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Santiago (MAC) Chile, Santiago de Chile, Chile; *Table of Contents*, LynFabrikken, Aarhus, Denmark; *4 líneas de texto*, Espacio Kukuruchos, Guadalajara, México; *Let the things go down to go up to go down*, Triennale de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal; *Re*. Centro Cultural de España en Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Moreover, he has been awarded with the EVA (*Experimental Video Architecture Festival*, 2013), and has enjoyed three residences at The Macdowell Colony, Peterborough, US; *El Ranchito / Matadero*, Madrid, Spain and at *Tokyo Wonder Site*, Tokyo, Japan.

[www.maxestrella.com](http://www.maxestrella.com)

<http://www.luisurculo.com>

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**GALERÍA MAX ESTRELLA.** Santo Tomé, 6 (courtyard). Madrid

9<sup>th</sup> April 2016 through 28<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

Monday to Friday: 10:00-14:00, and 16:30-20:30. Saturday: 11:00-14:00.

Opening: Saturday 9 April at 11:00.