

MAX ESTRELLA



MARLON DE AZAMBUJA

BRUTALISM

Max Estrella Gallery is pleased to present the exhibition *Brutalism* of the artist Marlon de Azambuja, after his successful show in this space two years ago.

Marlon de Azambuja interests have focused on the cultural and aesthetic impact of architecture and urban planning characteristic of the big cities in the world. Deeply influenced by Brazilian modernist architecture in contrast to the precariousness visible at the foot of large constructions, Marlon de Azambuja has transformed, through his interventions, urban elements in artistic matters and, spontaneously, in works of art. Likewise his critical gaze towards the growing empowerment of the art world, reflected in the construction of large buildings for museums, designed by renowned architects, has opened new concepts in the work of this artist.

Brutalism presents a new proposal of Azambuja, who in a combination of forces, gives a decisive role to the construction materials of the architectural space. The great architects of the world have erected not only large masses of concrete, bricks and other materials; have also projected a large cluster of ideologies - in many utopian cases - which have fixed in the collective consciousness models of thinking and inhabiting the world. The possibility to test this system, is the *leitmotif* of this exhibition. Based on the strength of convictions of the spectator, Marlon intends to turn them unstable, almost destroying them, to raise them up again later on. Specifically *Brutalism*, as suggested by its title, is the process of accepting the nature of materials and urban conditions of human coexistence.

Carolina Castro

Marlon de Azambuja (Brazil, 1978) is one of the most prominent emerging artists worldwide. Among his solo exhibitions include *The Construction of the Icon*, at the Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno (CAAM) in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain; *Editora Calle*, Galeria Marilia Razuk in São Paulo, Brazil; *Niveles*, Espai Quatro, Casal Solleric, in Palma de Mallorca, Spain; *Sculptural Potential*, Matadero, Abierto X Obras, Madrid, Spain; *Concrete Movement*, Furini Arte Contemporanea, Rome, Italy.

His work has been part of group shows as *11ª Bienal de La Habana*, Cuba; *11ª Bienal de Cuenca*, Cuenca, Ecuador; *8ª Bienal do Mercosul*, Porto Alegre, Brazil; *Bologna Art First*, Pinacoteca di Bologna, Italy; *12 Bienal de El Cairo*, El Cairo, Egypt; *Sinergias*, MACUF, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Unión Fenosa, La Coruña, Spain; *Kierkegaard's Walk*, Marilia Razuk Gallery, Sao Paulo, Brazil; *Des-Habitable* Centro Cultural de España, Lima, Perú; *I Bienal del Fuego*, Caracas, Venezuela.

Marlon's works are present in collections such as the Ministry of Culture of Spain; Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Gran Canaria, Spain; María Cristina Masaveu Peterson Foundation, Spain; Museum of Contemporary Art of Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil; Oscar Niemeyer Museum, Curitiba, Brazil; OTR Collection Sabadell Bank Collection, Madrid, Spain; and the Nomas Foundation in Rome, Italy.

This year will be specially important in his career, highlighting his residency at the Bronx Museum in New York in Spring, to be followed by *Inheritance*, a solo exhibition at the PIVÔ Art Center of São Paulo, Brazil, on the occasion of which a monograph of the artist will be published.

Marlon de Azambuja

GALERÍA MAX ESTRELLA. Santo Tomé, 6 (patio). Madrid. Spain

25th January to 15th March 2014

Mon-Fri: 10:00-14:00 & 16:30-20:30; Sat: 11:00-14:00

Opening: Sat. 18th January at 12pm