



## BACKGROUND

### PEDRO CALAPEZ

The fourth exhibition of the artist at Max Estrella Gallery in Madrid will present recent paintings in acrylic on aluminium and paintings on cardboard.

*Background* can mean which is or seems to be beyond the visible back of something, either behind the appearance or the intention of an action. In Calapez paintings a disturbing background can be noticed, resulting from his ways of practicing painting and his continuous seduction for what disturbs his eyes.

In the recent works by Pedro Calapez there is a dialogue between abstract painting and the outline of the work itself, as the panel's twisted lines interact with the thick colours on the painted surface. The system that Calapez sometimes follows, involving grouping painted aluminium panels together, causes a disaggregation shown by the fragmenting of the work, but the tension that arises through its display creates a movement possessing unexpected direction and unbalanced balance. Sometimes the painted surface reminds us of horizons, spaces and depths, challenging ideas about landscape or the problematic of representation. The panel shapes express different types of references, such as the heraldic, and the titles of the works refer to forms, processes or objects associated with visual memories. Beyond being abstract painting, these works question or expand established concepts, transferring Alberti's window onto a different level.

Calapez (Lisbon, 1953) work has been shown in Venice and Sao Paulo Biennials, as well as international galleries and museums: Casa de la Città, Rome; Carré des Arts, Paris; Centre d'art contemporain, Marne-La-Vallée; INTERVAL-Raum fur Kunst & Kultur, Witten, Germany; Kunstmuseum Bonn; Centro Galego de Arte Contemporáneo (CGAC), Santiago de Compostela; Museo Extremeño e Iberoamericano de Arte Contemporáneo (MEIAC), Badajoz; Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo (CAAC), Seville; Fundació Pilar i Joan Miró, Majorca; la Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon and Museu Serralves, Porto.

Pedro Calapez is represented in several public and private collections such as Museu Serralves, Porto; Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon; Fundação Luso Americana, Lisbon; Caja General de Depósitos, Lisbon; Chase Manhattan Bank N.A, New York; Fundació Pilar i Joan Miró, Majorca; Museo Extremeño e Iberoamericano de Arte Contemporáneo, Badajoz; Centro Galego de Arte Contemporánea, Santiago de

Compostela; Fundación Prosegur, Madrid; Fundación Coca-Cola, Madrid; MNCARS, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, and others.

Among the awards he has received are: Latin Union Prize in 1990; Premi de Disseny Fundació Pilar i Joan Miró, Majorca, 1995; Premi “Ciutat de Palma”, Majorca, 1999; Prémio de Pintura EDP-Arte, 2001; AICA Prize (International Association of Art Critics) and Premio Nacional de Arte Gráfico, Calcografía Nacional, Madrid, in 2005.

Traducción de David Prescott

**Pedro Calapez**

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

October 28th to December 10th, 2010.

Monday to Friday: 10 am to 2 pm / 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

Saturdays: 11 am to 2 pm / 5 pm to 8:30 pm.

Opening: Thursday, October 28th at 8 pm.