

# GALERIEKORNFELD

## **GALERIE KORNFELD presents JOSÉ MANUEL CIRIA**

**Film Premiere:** Fri, 22 November 2013, 6:30 pm

**Location:** Martin-Gropius-Bau, Kinosaal, Niederkirchnerstr. 7, D-10963 Berlin

**Reception for the Artist:** Sat, 23 November 2013, 6pm – 9pm

**Duration:** 23 November 2013 – 8 February 2014, Tue-Sat 11am – 6pm

**Location:** Galerie Kornfeld, Fasanenstraße 26, D-10719 Berlin

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Galerie Kornfeld is pleased to announce the solo exhibition of renowned Spanish artist José Manuel Ciria. 'Over/Under the Raw' will be on display from 23rd November 2013 until 8th February 2014 and showcases a selection of recent works that highlights a deliberate return to abstraction in Ciria's trajectory.

These bodies of works arise in the context of a complicated personal scenario, marked by the conclusion of a seven years-long staying in New York, followed by José's return to Madrid and the imminent move to London. Such a convoluted period has inspired three new series, defining the artist's evolved approach towards the 'pictorial spot' as a 'raw' element onto which the visual construction is built up.

In 'Mascaras y Miradas' (Glance Series) Ciria reflects on the intricate relation between gesture and order; the geometric structure being juxtaposed to the vibrant, splashing 'spots'.

With 'Psicopompos' this investigation seems to go further on; here paint is enabled to serve as the tool to destabilize the authenticity of photography.

Stretching the artist's focus on construction layers, we encounter the 'Puzzles' Series. This can be read as the result of an inverted process in which fragments of color, first cut out and then pasted, are laid over the spot.

Throughout his career, Ciria's path developed around the investigation of the pictorial image intended as a territory whose cartography can still be rewritten. To this extent, achievements and failures of the avant-garde movements responsible of shaping the evolution of modern art serve as the designated starting point for José's practice. In particular, Ciria's approach noticeably recall the canons of Abstract Expressionism to an extent that unveiling this legacy become the structure upon which his aesthetic principles yet hold up yet are elaborated.

Ciria's imagery is deeply influenced by his Spanish roots, manifested by his forceful splashing of paint and expressive vibrant colors. His subjects oscillate between representation and abstraction, geometric and energetic action. Ciria's oeuvre seems to be standing for the continuity of painting as an ever-meaningful media, despite detractors and hints of discredit. His artistic effort concentrates on seeking to construct a kind of painting that imposes itself on 'distracted perception' and that undermines 'the apathy and the indifference of the gaze'.

# GALERIEKORNFELD

Jose Manuel Ciria (b. Manchester, 1960) has gained a wide international recognition through solo and group exhibitions among which the Herzliya Contemporary Art Museum in Tel Aviv, Israel (2002), the Tretyakov State Gallery in Moscow, Russia (2004), the Polish National Museum of Poland, Warsaw (2004), the Museo de Arte Abstracto Manuel Felguérez in Zacatecas Mexico (2005), the PasquArt Kunsthalle Art Center Museum in Bern, Switzerland (2005), the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Ateneo de Yucatán in Mérida, Mexico (2006), the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de Buenos Aires, Argentina (2007), the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Santiago de Chile (2009), the Instituto Valenciano de Arte Moderno (IVAM) (2012), the Heritage Museum (MUPAM), Malaga (2012), the National Museum of Contemporary Art (MINAC), Bucharest (2012) and the Museum of Modern Art (MAMBA), Buenos Aires, Argentina (2013). His work has been shown by Stefan Stux Gallery, NY (2011), Christopher Cutts Gallery, Toronto (2009), Art Rouge Gallery, Miami (2008) among many others.

Galerie Kornfeld is delighted to announce that the exhibition 'Over/Under the Raw' will be preceded by the screening of the film: 'Ciria pronounced Thiria' taking place on the 22nd November at the Martin-Gropius-Bau in Berlin. The movie, an Artist Portrait directed by Artur Balder will be shown for the first time in Germany after its World Premiere being released at MoMA (New York) in May 2013.

Hi-Res photos and other images are available on request.

For any enquiry or further info, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Giovanni De Sanctis | Hannah Linder | Dr. Tilman Treusch

## **Contact:**

Giovanni De Sanctis: [desanctis@galeriekornfeld.com](mailto:desanctis@galeriekornfeld.com)

Hannah Linder: [linder@galeriekornfeld.com](mailto:linder@galeriekornfeld.com)

Dr. Tilman Treusch: [treusch@galeriekornfeld.com](mailto:treusch@galeriekornfeld.com)

## **GALERIEKORNFELD**

Kunsthandel GmbH & Co KG

Fasanenstraße 26

10719 Berlin

Deutschland

Tel +49 30 889 225 890

Fax +49 30 889 225 899

[galerie@galeriekornfeld.com](mailto:galerie@galeriekornfeld.com)

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

<http://www.facebook.com/GalerieKornfeld>