

Press release

Eclipse

with Cecilia Edefalk, Iman Issa, and Oscar Muñoz

23 June – 27 August 2023

Opening: Thursday, 22 June, 2023, 6 – 10 pm

carlier | gebauer is pleased to announce *Eclipse*, an exhibition with Cecilia Edefalk, Iman Issa, and Oscar Muñoz. Derived from the ancient Greek ἔκλειψις (ékleipsis), meaning “the abandonment” or “darkening of the heavenly body,” eclipse conjures the mutability of conscious and unconscious worlds. The exhibition adopts an expanded view of such celestial events, exploring resonances between works by three artists engaging the notion of eclipse as an agent of change, transformation, and growth through different media and conceptual approaches.

Eclipse opens on the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. Shrouded in darkness, the exhibition will only be activated during daylight hours, actively “eclipsing” the sun by generating a lunar atmosphere within the exhibition space.

Oscar Muñoz’s installation *Eclipse* (2000–2002), eponym to the exhibition’s title, emerged from a series of diaristic observations of how eclipses were interpreted in certain cultures, myths, and historical periods. In the site-specific variation of the work conceived for carlier | gebauer in Madrid, Muñoz creates an optical illusion. An alignment of three tiny holes cut in the gallery’s wall working with the means of the *camera obscura* and covered by three concave mirrors, allows the reflection of the outside world to enter. Upon approaching the installation, what first appears to be luminous static images reveals the lively street of José Marañón.

A significant voice working in Colombia today, Muñoz has developed a reputation for his use of ephemeral materials to explore elusive phenomena such as time, memory, loss, and history.

In her series *To View the Painting Within* (2002), Cecilia Edefalk depicts a mask of Marcus Aurelius that she encountered at the Malmö Konstmuseum. One of Sweden’s most celebrated artists, Edefalk’s intuitive and deeply personal practice often undertakes serial explorations of a single motif, using repetition as a means to create visionary reflections on perception, time, and memory. A recurring motif in her work across media, Aurelius’ visage appears in these paintings from a multitude of different angle and perspectives, as if forming an idiosyncratic lunar phase calendar, an effect that is enhanced with subtle lighting in the darkened exhibition space.

Iman Issa creates ambiguous, poetic displays through the juxtaposition of text and object. Her series *Lexicon* (2012– ongoing), in the artist’s words, “tries to offer material and conceptual manifestations to a variety of terms.” Although based upon actual historical artworks, what is significant here is not a description or literal recreation of a work but rather the act of perceiving and responding to an object. In the case of the work *Fortune Teller* (2013), Issa pairs a spare, declarative description of a 1959 painting with a photograph depicting a brilliant circle of light that illuminates a curved surface below. Together, they generate the dynamic sense of possibility, mystery, and transformation implicit in an unknown future.

Cecilia Edefalk (b.1954, Norrköping) lives and works in Stockholm. Her work received a major retrospective in 2020 at Norrköping Museum of Art and in 2016 at Prins Eugens Waldmarsudde, Stockholm. Edefalk will have a solo exhibition at carlier | gebauer’s Madrid location in September 2023 during APERTURA. The artist has had numerous one person museum exhibitions at Moderna Museet, Stockholm; BAMPFA, Berkeley Art Museum; Crystal Palace, Stockholm; Parasol unit, London; The Art Institute of Chicago; Malmö Konstmuseum; Lunds Konsthall, Sweden; Kunsthalle Kiel, Germany; and Kunsthalle Bern. Her work has appeared in many group shows at

various international venues including at Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau; Moderna Museet, Malmö; Documenta 11, Kassel; the 22nd São Paulo Biennial; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford; Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt; CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Art, San Francisco; and Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris.

Iman Issa (b. 1979, Cairo) lives and works in Berlin. She is a recipient of the 2017 Vilcek Prize, the 2015 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award, the 2013 Abraaj Group Art Prize and HNF-MACBA Award in 2012 and was nominated for the Preis der Nationalgalerie 2017 among others. Recent group and solo exhibitions include DAAD, Berlin; Kunstmuseum, St. Gallen; Whitney Biennial, New York; Bielefelder Kunstverein, Bielefeld; Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin, Kunsthalle Lissabon, Spike Island, Bristol; Lisbon; MACBA, Barcelona; Perez Museum, Miami; the 12th Sharjah Biennial; the 8th Berlin Biennial; MuHKA, Antwerp; New Museum, New York; and KW Institute of Contemporary Art, Berlin. Her work is held in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; MACBA, Barcelona; Guggenheim Museum, New York; and Magasin III, Stockholm, among others.

Oscar Muñoz (b. 1951, Colombia) lives and works in Cali, Colombia. His works are in important public and private collections including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York; the Daros Collection, Zürich; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; the Museo del Barrio, New York; The Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C; the Museum of the Americas, New York; the Fundación la Caixa, Barcelona; Tate Modern, London; MAMBO, Bogotá; Daros Collection, Rio de Janeiro; UBS Collection; Colección Banco de la República de Colombia; FRAC Picardie; Colorado Art Museum; MEIAC, Badajoz; LACMA, Los Angeles, USA; Colección Jumex, Mexico City; JP Morgan Collection; MALBA, Buenos Aires; SFMOMA, San Francisco; and Kadist Foundation, Paris and San Francisco.