

**Press release**

**Luis Gordillo | CORAZONADAS, Part I**

25.06.2022 – 27.08.2022

Opening: Friday, 24 June 2022, 6 – 9 pm

carlier | gebauer is pleased to announce *CORAZONADAS*, Luis Gordillo's first solo exhibition with the gallery. One of the foremost artists working in Spain, Luis Gordillo's accomplished career spans over six decades. His distinct approach to the image is propelled by a metabolic impulse that appropriates and reconfigures a vast array of visual input, ranging from photography and comics to more traditional painterly techniques. The artist's abiding interest in psychoanalysis has shaped a complex and layered style of painting that builds worlds within worlds, encompassing multifarious and at times conflicting perspectives. "While I'm painting," Gordillo explains, "I have a feeling of perforating, of making holes. I'm asking myself what's at the bottom of this."<sup>1</sup> This layered approach to constructing an image, which curator Dieter Schwarz has described as a kind of *mise en abyme*, testifies to the depth and expansiveness of Gordillo's vision.

*CORAZONADAS* includes new large scale painting and mixed media works on paper. Typical of the artist's playful approach, which toys with replication and double-meanings, the term means both "of the heart" and to "have a hunch"—to make an assumption based on intuition. A commonality linking the works across diverse media is Gordillo's collage-like approach, which derives less from how he brings together different types of materials than his meticulous, complex constructions of pictorial space. With its layers of bold, interlocking lines, a painting on paper, *Cabeza invertida* (2019) exudes a centripetal force, pulling the eye toward the center of the composition. A related body of smaller mixed media works on paper, titled *Conexión Transversal*, impart a similar sense of dynamic energy and power. In *ROBOT: ¡! Electrízame!!* (2021/2022) pockets of organic forms are embedded within rigorous geometric constructions. The friction between hard-edged linear lines, softer scribbles, and undulating forms lends the painting both a sense of restraint and corporeal intensity.

**Luis Gordillo** (b.1934, Sevilla, Spain) lives and works in Madrid. He has participated in exhibitions in Spain and internationally, including MACBA, Barcelona; Museo de Bellas Artes, Bilbao; Artium, Vitoria; CAC, Malaga; Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporaneo, Sevilla; Centro Gallego de Arte Contemporaneo, Santiago de Compostela; IVAM, Valencia; MUN, Pamplona; Meadows Museum, Dallas; Museum Folkwang, Essen; Instituto Cervantes, París; Museum de Arte de Zapopan, Mexico; MASP Sao Paulo. A major retrospective exhibition of Gordillo's artwork, curated by the artist Luis Gordillo himself, *Iceberg Tropical* took place in the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid (2007) and the Kunst Museum Bonn (2008). Gordillo's works are in numerous public and private collections including the MNCARS, MACBA, CAAC, IVAM, Museo de Bellas Artes de Bilbao, Artium Vitoria, Fundació La Caixa, ICO, CAM, Banco de España, Fundación AENA, Fundación Juan March, CA2M, Mostoles, Museo Helga de Alvear and the Museum Folkwang in Essen.

<sup>1</sup> Luis Gordillo in conversation with Dieter Schwarz.