

Press release

Luis Gordillo | 2003-2016, Part II

17.09.2022 – 19.11.2022

Opening: Friday, 16 September 2022, 6 – 9 pm

carlier | gebauer is pleased to announce *2003-2016, Part II*. Following Luis Gordillo's inaugural solo show with the gallery entitled *Corazonadas*, this exhibition is the second chapter in a trilogy that explores the Spanish artist's diverse and complex body of work. The third and final installment will take place in 2023.

With an accomplished career spanning over six decades, Luis Gordillo is one of Spain's most accomplished visual artists. He established his artistic reputation through his pioneering experiments with figuration and color. Over the decades, Gordillo's voracious curiosity and distinct approach metabolized influences ranging from Informalism to Pop Art and geometric abstraction, fusing them into a distinct kaleidoscopic vision marked by his personal trajectory of aesthetic evolutions and ruptures. Nurtured by his lifelong interest in psychoanalysis, Gordillo's complex and layered style of painting "purifies and secretes energy, violent and spontaneous, abstract but concrete."

While *Corazonadas* focused on the artist's most recent works, *2003-2016, Part II* sheds light on Gordillo's paintings from the early 2000s. The exhibition comprises approximately one dozen large-scale acrylic and mixed media works on various substrates, some of which include digital printing techniques. In an interview with the curator Dieter Schwarz, Gordillo describes paintings from this period as having one foot in the analogue and the other in the digital, while also likening his process to collage. "This is our nature," he explains, "a mixed society with excessive information of tendencies—a mix of sensations." Gordillo translates this flux of impulses and information into paintings with patterns and motifs that mirror, replicate, repeat, and then break down. As the critic Beatriz Espejo notes, Gordillo "has always had a certain aversion to situating himself within a single channel. Not only a theoretical aversion, but an aversion of character, a way of being, a way of life, above all, a way of feeling. He says that he suffocates as soon as the thing begins to repeat itself. What he likes is the extra work: breaking up and starting over."

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; Museo 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.

¹ Beatriz Espejo, "Eclipse de Ratón," trans. from Spanish (2019)

² Ibid.