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Blas Miras

ENGLISH



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RED CLOUD

When I was a child, my father would tell me often that I had my head in a cloud. I used to imagine it was a small cloud, caressed by the setting sun, blood-red. Perched upon it, as if on a windblown magic carpet, I would travel to unheard-of places: forests of blue trees, meadows with strange flowers, deserts of shiny moons, caves where lost dreams sleep. Having my head in a cloud stirred my imagination as I was growing up. Although I felt like a fish out of water, I was lucky enough to meet like-minded people on the way: other fish-ducks who took a different view of the world; people able to exchange loneliness and sadness for happiness and laughs, the passion for life.

Red cloud is a continuation of my previous exhibition Like a fish out of water, inaugurated in 2013 in Casas Consistoriales and which has now taken place in a number of towns. In this body of work a web-footed small fish tries to call attention to the carriers of dreams. These are people who rebel against the world in which they have to live and yearn for a fairer and more caring order of life. In the current show, the stairs and moons are connected to clouds that cradle air, rain and life.

The challenge I gave myself in this collection was to explore very diverse everyday objects. I wanted to continue with my appreciation of diversity as exemplified in the fish-duck. In these works the viewer will find a transformed chair or old copper pipe or tree branches left over from pruning, or even scouring pads. In this respect I want to give a second chance to discarded things in the interests of contributing to a sustainable planet. Equally, from my cloud, I look at these objects as though at a different angle hoping to bring out the beauty of the everyday.

In this body of work there are plenty of explicit cultural references, such as in the piece that gives its name to the exhibition, Red Cloud. The vanguard artists that stimulated me to dream and who have marked me since adolescence – Miró, Picasso, Matisse, Mondrian, Paul Klee or Jackson Pollock – take the form of fish. Mengual's tree, is a homage to my painter friend Martínez Mengual, the first artist ever to exchange the gift of a piece of work with me. In a more implicit way, Calder's influence can be seen in the mobiles of small clouds, created within my own artistic language and using recycled materials.

... And that insecure tiny fish that lived in an alien environment grew up to almost three meters tall in the piece called The big fish helps the small one. It represents solidarity, a recognition of all the NGOs that during times of crisis have lent a hand to so many.

It is my wish that while you view this exhibition, you enjoy it as much as I did creating each piece. Among all the variety and diversity of materials and ideas, I hope there are some works you find beautiful or at least that don't leave you indifferent. If that is the case, I will feel that we have traveled together upon my cloud and that my art indeed has a fish-duck soul.

Text:

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