

¿Soy Cuba?

The vital energy of the contemporary Cuban art scene inaugurates the exhibition space of the Palazzina dei Bagni Misteriosi of the Franco Parenti Theater in Milan

13 October - 19 November 2017

With its freshness and vital energy, **the new generation of Cuban art invades the Palazzina dei Bagni Misteriosi at the Franco Parenti Theatre in Milan** and inaugurates its exhibition space, offering the city of Milan yet another contemporary cultural offering. From **Friday ,13 October, ¿soy Cuba?** will tell of the new Cuban identity, and what it means today to be the protagonists of profound cultural change. The question of the title of the exhibition is inspired - not by chance - by the film "Soy Cuba" by Mikhail Kalatozov, who in 1964 re-examined the search for a new identity that had accompanied the revolution against Fulgencio Batista.

The exhibition is based on an idea by Marina Nissim, in collaboration with Galleria Continua and the Pier Lombardo Association, and is curated by Laura Salas Redondo. Through pictorial, performance, photographic and site-specific installations, **¿soy Cuba?** is a choral reflection on the current historical Cuban context and the commitment of an entire generation that has decided to keep its roots secure while at the same time break free isolation and travel to create dialogue with the global artistic community. To leave and return to build a new framework of a time and space reference, new coordinates to rethink the processes of building the Cuban cultural identity.

Eight artists were chosen to represent this new revolution, whose research takes shape through a multitude of different subjects, materials, languages and styles. The paintings, photographs and original work by **Alejandro Campins**, made ad hoc for i Bagni Misteriosi; **Elizabet Cerviño**, her reflections on words, fragments of meaning and her paintings; the video installation *Paranoia* by **Susana Pilar Delahante**, with a focus aimed at the public to speak of how each of us is a potential target of violence; **Leandro Feal**, and his Instagram profile, where for years he has witnessed how the nightlife, meetings, and customs of Cuban society change; **Osvaldo González** will create relationships with space and objects

with his work in Scotch tape, simple actions and relationships with everyday utensils that become artistic drivers; paintings by **Luis Enrique López**, who will also bring his performance *Otro Juego de Piscina* to the inauguration, to be then represented in photographic and film form within the exhibition; photographs by **Reynier Leyva Novo** and the installation *El beso de Cristal*, where the long row of silk-screened drinking glasses with the chronological succession of US Presidents will meet drinking glasses that represent Cuban Presidents. The two files end with Presidents who have made their mark in recent history, Raul Castro and Barack Obama, Obama, with this work the artist looked forward to this event for a year; and finally *Suelo Autoctono* by **José Yaque**, which will fuse the Italian land and books, as an archaeological discovery in that which lies underneath the Palazzina.

The exhibition will feature the **exclusive contribution of Carlos Garaicoa and Pascale Marthine Tayou**, who will create two special projects, two touches, like two strokes of colour that will enrich the sense of the exhibition.

¿Soy Cuba? is a journey into the new Cuban identity, a project that speaks of the contemporary artistic movements of a land with fertile soil as regards innovative productions.

Short biographies of the eight artists are attached.

Date

13 October - 19 November 2017

Exhibition venue

Palazzina dei Bagni Misteriosi of the Franco Parenti Theatre

Via Carlo Botta 18 – Milan

www.francoparenti.com

Opening hours

Every day from 16:00 to 21:00

Tickets

Full 8 euro

Reduced 6 euro

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