

pedro varela

october 10 – december 12 - 2013.

OPENING thursday october 10 from 18 hrs.

Varela's work is constituted with an ever-increasing consistency. Even in his paintings, the instance of the drawing and its subtle delicacy - characteristics of phases of once - are present. His paintings feed on the design and vice versa. Varela abdicates the 'planner' characteristics of design, to include it, experience it, and condense it in the painting.

Furthermore, the watery acrylic employed by the artist rearranges what we could otherwise think of as an error. The overflow of the ink is not a fluke. Instead, marks, textures and stains weave an atmosphere that reinforces the idea that nature is fluctuating.

That ethereal side, built on a play of shadows and volumes, denotes the suspension of matter. The fact that Varela removes objects from their banality and ordinariness, allows us to find resonance in the adopted influences of the artist: Archimboldo, Eckhout and Guignard. The latter, even more, because of the problem based performance of his work in the concept of the so-called landscape painting, and especially in his taste for the whimsical and decorative.

In the work of Varela, the "traditional model" of still life is replaced by vegetation inhabiting the boundary between fantasy and reality. We could wonder if these plants exist, perhaps in the leagues at the bottom of the sea, and therefore would never have the certainty of their existence. Varela gradually presents the mapping of an imaginary world, as if some form at some point might exist, eventually connecting with the "fabrications produced by the real world " as in literature (fantastic, to Jules Verne) or at the movies (science fiction movies or so-called "adventure films"). This contradiction, of the appearance of the shape- is explored by the historical difficulty of finding the blue pigment.

His still-lifes range from a stereotype (psychedelic) of the tropical to the kitsch. The so-called landscape painting, as well as the development of still life and the portrait in the history of Brazilian art between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries, has the characteristic of building an identity and a place that does not necessarily correspond to reality, but that has created and sustained for a long time, a number of myths and allegories about what Brazil should be.

Felipe Scovino, January 31, 2012

Pedro Varela

Born in Niterói, Brazil, in 1981. Currently resides in Rio de Janeiro.

Solo exhibitions:

- 2013 Pedro Varela, Zipper Galeria, São Paulo, Brasil.
- 2013 Pedro Varela, Xippas Arte Contemporâneo, Montevideo, Uruguay.
- 2013 Contest Fourth Edition + Solo Show Arcos Dorados de Pintura Latinoamericana, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2012 Nouvelles Indes, 11Bis Paris.
- 2012 Paisagem Flutuante, Museu de arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro.
- 2011 O Fim da Civilização, Ateliê 397 (inside the serie *Proyecto corredor*) São Paulo.
- 2011 Pedro Varela, Zipper Galeria, São Paulo.
- 2010 Cidade Flutuante, Paço das artes, São Paulo.
- 2010 Ciudad de arena, Galería Enrique Guerrero, Ciudad de México.
- 2009 Pedro Varela, A Gentil Carioca, Rio de Janeiro.
- 2008 Ciudad Flotante, Galería H10, Valparaíso.
- 2006 Mirante, A Gentil Carioca, Rio de Janeiro.

Other:

- 2013 Le Brésil Paysages, show-window Bon Marché, Paris, France.
- 2012 Plates auction of Museu Lasar Segall. São Paulo.
- 2011 Serra Serra, joint curatorship whit Marcelo Lago, Sesc Três Rios.
- 2011 Projeto Mezanino, Espaço Sesc Copacabana. Rio de Janeiro.
- 2010 Projeto Vidro Digital, SESC Vila Mariana, São Paulo.
- 2009 Estranho Cotidiano, curatorship for Galeria Movimento, Rio de Janeiro.
- 2009 Realidades impossíveis, curatorship for o Ateliê 397, São Paulo.
- 2008 Realidades imposibles, curatorship for the Fototeca Juan Malpica Mimendi, Veracruz, México.
- 2007 Carnaval do Rio OBA! Charity auction for the ASU Art Museum, Arizona, USA.
- 2007 Centerpiece for the Pimpolhos da Grande Rio parade Carnaval Mirim de Rio de Janeiro.
- 2006 Charity Auction Luisa Strina/Anima, Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo, Brasil.

Awards:

- 2006 Mención de Honor, 25 Arte Pará
- 2001 Mención de Honor Salão Comemorativo de los 185 años de la Escuela de Bellas Artes de la UFRJ

Public Collections:

- MAM Rio de Janeiro – Colección Gilberto Chateaubriand, Montblanc México, SESC Brasil, Sprint Nextel Art Collection.