

PRESS RELEASE

**BETWEEN US | GRACIELA SACCO**

Opening | 17.12.20

Permanence | 17.12.20 - 06.03.21

After the recent major acquisition of **Graciela Sacco's** works by MALBA (Museum of Latin American Art from Buenos Aires, Argentina) at the time by MUAC (Museum of Contemporary Art of Mexico City); **Rolf Art** is pleased to announce the opening of the **artist's solo exhibition** entitled **Between Us**, which revisits and brings together in an unprecedented way, the work that led to the artist to represent Argentina at the 49th Venice Biennale, 20 years ago.

Entre Nosotros (Between Us) is a work which proposes reflection on the various mediums which the contemporary artwork subscribes to. For Graciela Sacco, each space was a chance for discourse and action. For this reason, in the 49th Venice Biennial in 2001, the artist creates a work conceived as a dialectical game, in which she combines different expressions condensed into the gaze.

The eyes, its portrait and materialization on different media, built an installation within the Fondaco dei Tedeschi (Central Post office) at the same time that they were expanded in the urban landscape. The artist creates an urban intervention placing portraits of anonymous gazes of different cultures with the intention of interrogating the spectator over who's who in the urban scene. Cities, which are social machines, both politically and architecturally, are a mix of signs for the artist, an urban continuum both organized and chaotic, mechanized by the routines and rituals that reveal a visual theme and a social dynamic and an economic map in perpetual transformation. Where are city memories recorded? Where is the record of the inhabitant's viewpoint, of its travelers, its invaders and of those it expulses?

(The work was completed with a website - currently not operational - in which visitors were openly invited to send their eyes and messages that were registered in a postal action).

Later Graciela Sacco went back to this work and took this gesture into new expressions framed in new work series under different searches. The *Gaze portrait*, from the *Admissible Tension* series, in a knife's edge stuck in a wall, points the memory of the walls, its role as witnesses of the domestic violence; or the stalking gaze, contemplated in the entrenched eyes videos, *Waiting for the barbarians*.

Between Us explores the impossibility of contemplating the internal without the exterior, and the impossibility of considering the ordinary without boundaries. The world, which in many occasions appears violent and unexpected, is even more uncertain when the external is internalized. In this context, after a year coping COVID-19, which deepened that singular zone of litigation between ones own place and that of the others; and after four years of Graciela Sacco's death, her work is still recognized as contemporary. This is the most distinct position of the artist's state. Her artworks signals and talks of the states which cross timeframes and which we recognize as our own, as current. Without offering any type of response, her works do nothing more than reiterate questions.

The exhibition, free entry, can be visited from Thursday December 17, from Monday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. until March 6, 2021. To schedule your visit, please contact info@rolfart.com.ar.

About Graciela Sacco's work

Graciela Sacco's work is based in the artistic expressions of the 60s, establishing strong ties between artistic experimentalism and social commitment. Her works are related to light and graphics. From her beginnings and throughout her trajectory, her productions invite us to reflect on political and social violence: transits, exiles, migrations, nuclei of conflict in the social weft, present in episodes with different historical distances. In her work, quotations come and go and acquire a circular meaning, until they are located in a timeless instance that is also imposed in the present. Sacco shows that the construction of memory is a collective and conflictive task, which has to face a field of fragmented traces. Her work questions this relationship between memory and photography, giving memory the role of an active subject capable of dealing with the fragility and versatility of signs. Beauty and mystery are the means with which Graciela Sacco summons our senses to multiply and question the assignment of meaning. The use of different photosensitive processes gives her the possibility of materializing ideas and concepts in such a way that her work carries an unmistakable artistic identity stamp. Through appropriated images extracted from specific contexts, loaded with violence, but represented through great beauty and subtlety in their formal resolution, Sacco establishes a double operation where images are muted when not in their context but acquire new meanings when incarnated in new supports and unfold in the exhibition space or in the city itself. Her works function as latent devices that are activated through the reading of the images that emerge from them, demanding reflective contemplation and critical thinking.

Bio

GRACIELA SACCO 1956-2017, Santa Fe, Argentina.

Graciela Sacco, Santa Fé (1956-2017) graduated in 1987 with a thesis devoted to the Argentinean avant-garde movement of 1960. As a visual artist with a prominent position in the contemporary art scene, Graciela has represented Argentina in several international biennials including Shanghai Biennial (2004), Venice (2001), La Habana (1997 and 2000), Mercosur (1997), Sao Pablo (1996), 1st Biennial of Photography in Vigo (2000), The Urban Art Festival Toulouse (2002), among others. She has been awarded with various distinctions and has received many international accolades including Artist of the year, by the Argentinean Association of Art Critics (2001), Konex award (2002 – 2012) among others. She has published numerous books such as M2 Volúmen I (2009), Shadows from the South and the North (2004), Imágenes en Turbulencia: Migraciones, cuerpos, memoria (2000), Escrituras Solares (1994). She has been featured in leading publications such as America's Society Magazine, Bomb, Art Nexus, Art News, Art in Americas and the New York Times. Her works has been shown in solo and group exhibitions in Argentina, England, Germany, France, Switzerland, Israel, United States, Mexico, Brazil, Cuba, Peru. Today, her work is present in prestigious national and international collections such as MAMBA – Museum of Modern Arts, Buenos Aires, Argentina; MACRO – Museum of Contemporary Art from Rosario, Argentina; MoMA - Museum of Modern Art from New York, USA; Bronx Museum of New York, USA; MFAH – Museum of Fine Arts Houston, USA; Museum of Arts Fort Lauderdale, USA; The Microsoft Art Collection, Washington, USA; Capitolio Policultural, Porto Alegre, Brazil; Essex University, Colchester, England; MALBA - Museum of Latin American Art from Buenos Aires, Argentina; and MUAC - Museum of Contemporary Art of Mexico City, Mexico, among others.

About ROLF ART

Rolf Art, located in Buenos Aires and founded by Florencia Giordana Braun in 2009, focuses on contemporary Latin American visual arts. The gallery features works exploring photographic media and its boundaries. The selection of artists considers pieces with an inextricable union between critical density and aesthetic values, the liaison (always in tension) between formal strategies and conceptual depth. The curatorial profile of the gallery challenges the social, political and economical context of artistic production and understand it as a determining factor for art's interpretation.

We are committed to a select group of contemporary established Latin American artists, promoting them on a national and international basis. We support their artistic production together with editorial and audiovisual projects.

The gallery's mission is to promote the appreciation of contemporary art and to push the boundaries of visual arts..

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For more information please contact

Florencia Rugiero

ROLF ART

t.: +54.11.43263679 | c.: +54.9.11.59367513

m.: frugiero@rolfart.com.ar | Info@rolfart.com.ar