



WHERE I HAVE NEVER BEEN | SANTIAGO PORTER

Curator | **Joaquín Boz**

Opening | Thursday 04.08.22 - 6pm

04.08.22 - 24.09.22

Rolf Art | Esmeralda 1353

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Rolf Art is pleased to announce the opening of **Santiago Porter's** (1971, Buenos Aires, Argentina) solo show titled ***Where I have never been***. Curated by **Joaquín Boz**, the exhibition presents Porter's most recent production.

Where I have never been announce a turning point, a new approach by Santiago Porter. Working with organic, unstable, strange, and foreign materials Porter makes a leap & turns the page to stay longer within the painting practice. He enters into an unresolved space, with close references, forgetting any learned techniques, even to erase and try to understand new gestures. Porter wants to unlock something and that seems to be the cause of his entry into painting. He comes back to us with deliberate questions: How do we get into places we've never been? How do we get there and should it affect us? And if it affects us, how are we affected? What do we leave out and what do we take with us? And for an idea to be unlocked? An extensive period of time that proposes release a new form, in this opportunity, perhaps forever. Joaquín Boz

The **opening** of the show will take place on **Thursday, August 4th, 2022 from 6pm** in Esmeralda 1353, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The exhibition, free entry, can be visited from Monday to Friday from 11am to 7pm, until October 24, 2022.

Hope you can join us!

SANTIAGO PORTER

Statement

Santiago Porter has worked stubbornly through photography and painting on the deep and sensitive relationship between the aspect of things and their history. From his images, the vestiges (personal and private, public and collective) show that nothing and nobody disappears completely, nothing and nobody can become in total absence. From the investigation, turned into silent observation, Porter records the imprint of existence that is forever impregnated in materialities, he reflects on condensed memory, time and the history of peoples as a community. The individual stories and the social frameworks. Porter applies in his work a point of view that runs along the edges, the margins, looking beyond the obvious of the common place where the gaze can stop. His photographs show us what things evoke, they reveal their essence and they are not satisfied with their literal appearance because the interest doesn't lie there but in the hidden, silenced aspect of their existence. Some sort of radiography of the invisible. The poetic density of his work is in tune with the technical and plastic resources that he uses to capture those dense, uninhabited, stripped, gray, and overwhelmingly lonely atmospheres but which hide behind their veil, the DNA of their existence.

Bio

Santiago Porter (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1971) is an established visual artist with strong local and international recognition. He has been awarded with distinctions and received many accolades, such as the Guggenheim Scholarship (2002), the Fundación Antorchas Scholarship of Buenos Aires (2002), the First Award of Photography by the Central Society of Architects of Buenos Aires (2007), the Petrobras – Buenos Aires Photo Award (2008), the National Scholarship by the National Fund for the Arts (2010), Konex Visual Arts Award (2022) and was selected to take part in the Artist's Program at the Universidad Di Tella in Buenos Aires (2011). He has published numerous books such as "Pieces" (2003), "The absence" (2007) and "Mist" (2017). He has been featured in important leading national and international publications. His work has been shown in numerous solo and group exhibitions in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Colombia, Ecuador, Chile, United States, Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland and Egypt. Nowadays, his work is part of important national and international collections such as Museum of Latin American Art of Buenos Aires – MALBA (Argentina), National Museum of Fine Arts – MNBA (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Museum of Modern Art of Buenos Aires – MAMBA (Argentina), Museum of Contemporary Art of Rosario – MACRO (Argentina), Provincial Museum of Fine Arts Emilio Caraffa, Córdoba (Argentina), Museum of Art and Memory of La Plata – MAM (Argentina), Museo en los Cerros, Jujuy (Argentina), Museo de Arquitectura de Buenos Aires – MARQ (Argentina), The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles (USA), JP Morgan Chase Collection, New York, (USA), Fondation Antoine de Galbert, Paris (France), Petrobras Collection (Argentina), Rabobank Collection (Argentina), among others. Santiago Porter is currently a Professor at the Department of Social Sciences at the University of San Andrés and in the Photography Degree at the National University of San Martín.

JOAQUÍN BOZ | Bio

Joaquín Boz (1987, Rojas, Buenos Aires) studied art at the National University of Rosario. Between 2009 and 2011, he attended Claudia del Río's crits and began to paint, first combining drawing and painting, figuration and abstraction, and later concentrating wholly on abstract painting. His pieces focus on the evolution of work and the investigation of materials, a limited number of elements transformed over time by the techniques chosen and the different ways of combining them. Every painting exhibits the presence of countless discrete decisions and organic networks of marks that record the artist's intimate and pointed conversations with his materials. In 2011, he moved to Buenos Aires on a YPF Foundation grant as Artist of the Interior to participate in the Torcuato Di Tella University's Artists' Program coordinated by Jorge Macchi. He also attended Valentina Liernur's crits. In 2018, he received a scholarship for a three-month residency at the International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP), New York. He was awarded Second Prize at the Ninth Banco Central National Painting Salon (2016), First Prize at the Sixty-Eighth Rosario National Salon (2014), First Prize in Proyecto A (2013) and the Acquisition Prize in Drawing by the Santa Fe National Salon (2009). He was also shortlisted for the Federico Jorge Klemm Prize for the Visual Arts (2018), the Buenos Aires Biennial of Young Art (2013), the Braque Prize (2013) and Curriculum 0 (2011).

ABOUT ROLF ART

Rolf Art, located in Buenos Aires and founded by Florencia Giordana Braun in 2009, is the only art gallery specialized in technical image in Argentina. Focused on contemporary Latin American visual arts, the gallery features works exploring photographic media and its boundaries. The selection of artworks considers pieces with an inextricable union between critical density and aesthetic value. The curatorial profile challenges the political context & considers the social and economical background of artistic production 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.

In order to contribute to the production and appreciation of contemporary art, looking forward to pushing the boundaries of the Latin American visual arts, the gallery develops an important exhibition and educational program. Working alongside leading researchers, curators, and art critics, the gallery organizes exhibitions in collaboration with national and international institutions & photo festivals; leading the way towards a sustained participation in the most important art & photo fairs worldwide; managing the incorporation of Latin American artists in renowned institutions; in addition to multiple private collections; contributing to the legitimation of the visual expressions from the Latin American region worldwide.

WWW.ROLFART.COM.AR

For more information please contact:

Tania Vitale
Assistant Director
ROLF ART
p.:+54.11.43263679
m.:+54.9.11.68353629
m.: direccion@rolfart.com.ar
w.: www.rolfart.com.ar



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