



FONDAZIONE
PASTIFICIO CERERE



present

VEURE

Robert Llimós' personal traveling exhibition

Curated by Marcello Smarrelli

VEURE #1

March 15th – April 16th 2016

Roma, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere and Spazio Cerere, via degli Ausoni 3-7

Opening: Tuesday, March 15th, 19h

VEURE #2

June 8th – July 8th 2016

Barcelona, Espai Marc Llimós

The Catalan artist **Robert Llimós** is the protagonist of a double exhibition, by which **Fondazione Pastificio Cerere** and **Nando Peretti Foundation, Delegació a Catalunya** pay homage to his forty-year-long career: firstly, in Rome, from March 15th to April 16th 2016, at Fondazione Pastificio Cerere and Spazio Cerere; later in Barcelona, in June 2016, in the artist's atelier-home. The whole exhibition project, which is named **VEURE**, is curated by **Marcello Smarrelli** and the two locations are set up in cooperation with the architectural firm **stARTT**. This is a traveling exhibit that was conceived as a tale. Its purpose is allowing the audience to familiarize with Llimós' research and poetry, which are able to amuse and make people think, thanks to the favorite subjects in the artist's latest production: **aliens**.

On the occasion of his **first personal exhibition in Italy**, Llimós presents **more than 50 works – paintings, sculptures, engravings and drawings**. These works represent, in a nearly obsessive way, enigmatic melancholic creatures, coming from different galaxies, which are unsettling and familiar at the same time. This is due not only to their incredibly anthropomorphic features, but because they seem to be constantly questioning us about the extraterrestrial life. The debate on alien existence is an ongoing and open one, fueled by constant studies and witnesses; it is a thrilling topic, since it involves our approach towards reality, creating a divided audience of skeptical individuals and "devoted" ones. It is not by chance that the project title is **VEURE, which means "to see" in Catalan**. This term refers to an **episode that took place in 2009, a "vision" that left a permanent mark on Llimós' personal and professional life**: during a trip to Brazil, his attention was caught by a strong glare coming from an object moving in the sky, a glimpse that nothing terrestrial could have released. The artist has devoted his work to representing what he saw in that moment ever since, by entrusting to his own art the task of communicating that impossible-to-document experience.

The Rome exhibition – **VEURE #1** – mainly focuses on the obsessive dimension of Llimós' works, which is reflected in the **Spazio Cerere's more than 200 square meters** setting up. Through a smart mirror trick, his works endlessly multiply in a suggestive kaleidoscope. A surreal atmosphere surrounds the audience, whose images – reflected along with the alien ones – invite to meditate on their human kind condition. We are accustomed to analyze the Universe and question ourselves according to our perspective. Llimós suggests new viewpoints to interpret the reality surrounding us, and try to give it a meaning.

As a connection to the Spanish exhibition, a documentary mostly filmed in the artist's Barcelona atelier-home will be projected at **Fondazione Pastificio Cerere**, and reproductions of the neon painting titled *Neo Veure*, a 1970 work of Llimós', will be exhibited in the second project stage, too.

On one hand, in Rome, the exhibition is set up in a traditional expository space; on the other hand, in *VEURE #2*, in Barcelona, the works are located in their original habitat– the artist's atelier– and create a retrospective path extending till the city harbor. There, **Llimós' most important public work, the *Miraestels dreaming silhouette (2006)***, can be admired. The figure which is portrayed in this monumental sculpture looks upwards, so as to establish a contact with those aliens crowding the Rome exhibition.

Robert Llimós' art is an attempt to explore the external reality filtered by a moving sensitivity and personal inspiration. A weird population composed by empty chairs, deformed physiognomy human figures, abstract lines apparently traced by a child's hand, escaping dogs; and then, the Mediterranean Sea and its allegories, colorful globes, alien civilizations. A multi-shaped imaginary, a mobile and troubled one, where different artistic techniques and genres are mixed. **"I'm interested in figuration but not realism. I express concepts through images, without competing with reality"**. This is how the artist explains his attitude towards the world. Llimós has been "playing" with artistic languages for fifty years, by experimenting and changing his perspectives. In his eclecticism, the artist demonstrates strong positions, but this does not ascribe him in a single trend. As he declares: "I like looking at the canvas without a previous idea. I want the canvas to surprise me, as if someone else had painted it".

In order to allow the youngest ones to get to know better the artist's work, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere organizes **creative workshops for children** in cooperation with **Associazione Informadarte**. Participants and their families will join a short exhibition guided tour: through the works observation, the main elements of Robert Llimós' artistic research will be explored, and their languages, techniques and materials discovered. Later, a practical activity will follow, aimed at re-processing the knowledge which was acquired during the tour. All the information on the dates will be communicated on the webpage www.pastificiocerere.it.

Robert Llimós's Biography

He was born October 19th, 1943 in Barcelona. He studied at the Escola Massana and the Escola Superior de Belles Arts Sant Jordi of Barcelona. He began his career as a painter of the so-called "New Figuration" trend (1965-1968) and from 1969 to 1973 he experimented new concepts. Later, he returned to the figurative painting, by enriching it with a new expressionist character emphasizing colors. He lived in New York (1975-1983) and Miami (1987-1988) for long periods. Not only is he a painter, but his art is revolved to sculpture, graphic art, mural painting, posters, as well. Currently he lives and works in his Barcelona atelier. In 1994, the Catalan Government assigned him the prize "Premio de Artes Plásticas".

www.robertilimos.es

Fondazione Pastificio Cerere is a nonprofit Foundation, which was established in Rome in 2005 with the purpose of promoting and spreading contemporary art, by securing relations with public and private bodies, as well as national and foreign cultural institutions.

www.pastificiocerere.it

Nando Peretti Foundation has funded, so far, 852 projects, for an overall value of more than 42 million euros, distributed in 79 countries worldwide. NFP contributed to diverse causes of global interest, such as the fight against deforestation, while valuing and fostering more specific, time-limited minor projects too. An example is the support to disadvantaged local communities. This double approach, both global and local, is possibly one of the main strengths of the Nando Peretti Foundation. As a NPF Delegation, the "NPF, delegació a Catalunya" will support the series of charitable and general interest interventions developed by the NPF all over the World, with a special focus on Catalonia.

www.nandoperettifound.org

OPENING TIMES

Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Via degli Ausoni 7

Spazio Cerere, Via degli Ausoni 3

Monday–Friday 15.00-19.00, Saturday 16.00-20.00

FREE ENTRY

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