

Dixon

****En Cattelan.....**

Juan Carlos Noria

Cultures i contradiccions conflueixen en Juan Carlos, un cop d'aire fresc de les arts visuals d'Ottawa (Canadà) des del 1983.

Potser perquè va néixer a Caracas (Veneçuela) té la sensibilitat a flor pell. Va arribar a Canadà de petit i a l'adolescència va aconseguir ser un patinador sobre gel molt hàbil. Des de llavors, la gràcia i les línies esdevaniren la seva obsessió. També les idees sobre la subversió...

Va deixar el món del patinatge sobre gel quan va començar a xocar amb la rigidesa de l'esport d'elit. Va trobar consol (i desconsol) a les arts visuals, tot alegrant els carrers a cop d'aerosol, creant cartells i arrancant a córrer davant la policia amb el seu skateboard.

De sobte, el destí li va oferir una oportunitat estranya: una gira mundial amb Disney patinant sobre gel. Aquesta novetat el va fer especialment sensible a l'absurd, va confondre el clot que se separa el riure de la ràbia i va esmolar la seva consciència social.

Fidel a la seva natura subversiva, distorsiona la seva personalitat per dualitzar-se en dues persones que exploren camins diferents de l'art. Tot i així és singular i fidel a ell mateix. Poc té de pretensions i es lliura amb tota l'ànima als altres. És de riure fàcil i ràpid en abocar sobre suport les creacions gestades al cap.

****En Castellano**

Juan Carlos Noria

Culturas y contradicciones confluyen en Juan Carlos, una bocanada de aire fresco de las artes visuales de Ottawa (Canadá) desde 1983.

Quizá por haber nacido en Caracas (Venezuela) tiene la sensibilidad a flor de piel. Llegó a Canadá de niño y ya de adolescente llegó a ser un patinador sobre hielo muy hábil. Desde entonces, la gracia y las líneas se convirtieron en su obsesión. También las ideas sobre la subversión...

Abandonó el mundo del patinaje sobre hielo cuando empezó a chocar con la rigidez del deporte de élite y halló consuelo (y desconsuelo) en las artes visuales, alegrando las calles a base de aerosoles, creando carteles y escapando de la policía con su skateborard.

De repente, el destino le ofreció una oportunidad extraña: una gira mundial con Disney patinando sobre hielo. Esta novedad le hizo especialmente sensible a lo absurdo, confundió el foso que separa la risa de la rabia y afiló su consciencia visual.

Fiel a su naturaleza subversiva, distorsiona su propia personalidad para desdoblarse en dos artistas que explorar estilos distintos. Aun así es singular y fiel a sí mismo. Poco tiene de pretencioso y se entrega con el alma a los demás. De risa fácil y rápido en plasmar creaciones gestadas en su cabeza.

**English

Juan Carlos Noria

A confluence of cultures and contradictions, Juan Carlos Noria is a painter for our times. Born in Caracas, Venezuela he carries his Latin American sensibility on his sleeve. As a teen growing up in Ottawa, Canada, he became an accomplished figure skater. Grace and lines were an obsession. So, too were his ideas of subversion. He fell out of skating after hitting the rigid class structure of the sport, finding comfort (and discomfort) in visual art, on the streets with a paint can, postering, skateboarding, fleeing police. A strange opportunity then came. A world tour with Disney on Ice. It heightened his sense of absurdity, humour and anger, sharpened his visual and social awareness. Arriving back in Ottawa, he hung up the skates and his career took flight with live painting performances. So proficient from his days of graffiti, he quickly earned a reputation for highly resolved canvases produced in front of appreciative crowds. Through these events in various venues, Juan Carlos also ensured a showcase for other young Ottawa artists, raising the bar and pushing them to achieve with him. It was 2001-2002.

Meanwhile, the tide of CNNesque culture rose in North America. Juan, always with an eye on pop culture and current events, found himself painting with increasing anger. He needed to change the channel. In November 2004, he moved to Barcelona, Spain to find tranquilo, a new view of the world and new audiences. Since his move, he has evolved, focused and become more prolific, with exhibits in Spain, the United States and Canada.

True to subversive nature, he undercuts his own personality allowing himself to explore two other personas and visual styles. He sometimes works under the pseudonyms of royal or dixon. He has been influenced by his contemporaries Mark Marsters, Pat Thompson and Dave Cooper. Yet, he is himself-singular Juan. He is without pretense, full of concern for others, quick to laugh and quicker to paint something ripe

Select Group Exhibitions:

- "Too sweet and seldom seen", Kismet Gallery, Troy, NewYork, USA, 2007;
- "Canada VS Spain", INOPERABLE Gallery, Vienna, august 2007;
- "Other, Saddo, Dixon", ZERO Gallery, Berlin, august 2007;
- "Inoxidable Neopop", Iguapop Gallery, Barcelona, january 2007;
- "EnRiosTurbulentos", Distrit Quinto, Barcelona, november 2006;
- "Street Camp", Yves Laroche L'autre Gallery, Montreal, Que., June 2006;
- WAR CHILD and ARABESQUE, "FREEDOM FIGHTERS", El Mocambo, Toronto, May 2006;
- "Hinterland Who's Who", Fifty24SF Gallery, San Francisco, USA, 2005;
- "Metal Pig", Orchard Street Gallery, New York,USA, 2005;
- "Contrapeso", ADN Galleria, Barcelona, Spain, March 2005;
- "Opposition Party," SAW Gallery, Ottawa, On. June 2004;
- "Hype 3," Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, On. Sept 2002;
- "Beatz and Piecez," 3 Shows, 2002-2003;
- "H.Y.P.E. 2," A.G.O. Toronto, On. Feb. 2002;
- "Visual Funk," Toronto, On. May 2002;
- "Dropping Bombs," Gallery 101, Ottawa, On. Aug. 2001.
- "Long and Skinny" Show, Mercury Lounge, Ottawa, On. 1999.

Collaborations:

- "Juno Awards," Live Art, Ottawa, April 2003;
- "Camarillo Brillo" Organizing and painting in weekly art performances, Ottawa, 2003;
- "Grand Master Flash" Barrymore's Music Hall, Ottawa, June 2002;
- "Heavy Weight, Barnstormers & 15lbs" Montreal, Dec. 2001;
- "Infinite Compact Sound System" Monthly art performances with DJ Duo.

Community Projects:

- "1st Annual Graffiti Festival," Organizer, Ottawa, Sept.2002;
- "Canadian Aids Society Mural," Painted and Coordinated, Ottawa, Aug. 2002;
- "Synchronicity," McNabb Skate Board Park, Coordinated Live Art, Ottawa, 2002;
- "Special Needs Initiative Programs," Coordinated and painted, 2001.

Other Exhibitions:

- "Dixon", Artguise Gallery, Ottawa, On. 2007;
- "UneldéeParJour", Candela Raval, Barcelona, Spain 2006;
- "Galerie La Petite Mort Gallery" Ottawa, On. May 2006;
- "Art Guise", You Are Being Lied To, Ottawa, On. 2005;
- "Savacou Gallery", New York, USA, 2004;
- "Art Guise", Ottawa, On. 2004;
- "Le Petit Bouchon", Paris, France, 2003
- "The Victoria", London, England, 2003;
- "Next Space", Kansas City, USA, 2003;
- "Delphic", Toronto, Canada, 2002;
- "Wurm Gallery", Ottawa, Canada 2002.