

"Houses for animals" in the Instant Foundation

November 27th - December 22nd 2018

If humanity disappeared, animals would inhabit their spaces. The exhibition *Casas para Animales*, which El Instante Fundación presents in its space, is based on an idea by the architects Luis Enguita and Paloma Lasso de la Vega in homage to the art historian Ángel González García.



If humanity disappeared, animals would inhabit its spaces. In this dystopia butterflies, gorillas, turtles, penguins and other animals would take over train stations, libraries, thermal baths or justice palaces. A process that invites us to meditate on the "human absence from the metaphysical point of view" in the words of Giorgio De Chirico. Based on this idea, the architecture studio Enguita & Lasso de la Vega, Jose María Sicilia, Miguel Albero and El Instante Fundación, have jointly developed several works.

The exhibition presents a series of unbuilt projects by Architecture Enguita & Lasso de la Vega, which led Ángel González García to reflect on various architectural typologies and their relationship with the surprising creativity shown by animals in the construction of their houses; an artifice common to both men and animals - that of building houses - which conduct to an enigmatic and uncertain exchange of roles.

Next, "Houses for Animals" focuses on the illusion and understanding of our habitat, on

how man thinks and imagines his link with nature. In the main space of El Instante the hypothetical images of *The Earth After Humans* are displayed, architectures inhabited by animals accompanied by short stories written by Miguel Albero. They are joined by the improbable and mysterious series of plates "illuminated" by Jose Maria Sicilia/El Instante from the book *La terre avant le déluge*, by Louis Figuier, (Paris, 1863); images that continue to exert their fascination with how man imagined the earth and the species that inhabited it in antediluvian times.

Reconciliation is the approach of Sicilia, which places in a scenario of mirrors another stage of this inevitable relationship, where man loses his condition to reconcile with the animal at the end of time. This illusion unites with the extreme reality, that of a bull waiting in the pigsty of the square or a man with no place, who walks his misplaced freedom through a Tokyo zoo.

Houses for Animals. Tribute to Ángel González García.

A project by Architecture Enguita & Lasso de la Vega, El Instante Fundacion,
Jose Maria Sicilia and Miguel Albero.

Tuesday 27 November / Saturday 22 December 2018.

Opening: Tuesday November 27th at 7:30pm

El Instante Fundacion. Palos la Frontera, 20. Madrid 28012 Madrid, Spain

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday (12pm – 2pm, 4pm - 8pm). Closed December 6th.

More information Tel: +34 910522480 <https://www.elinstantefundacion.org/>

Architecture Enguita & Lasso de la Vega. Luis Enguita and Paloma Lasso de la Vega are both architects by the Escuela Tecnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid. The architecture studio 'Enguita & Lasso de la Vega' is characterised by the development of two differentiated and convergent lines of work: one related to the professional practice of architecture -building projects and competitions- and the other to contemporary art and museographic specialisation - collaborations with artists, design and exhibition curating.

Jose Maria Sicilia. Painter, engraver and sculptor. The works of José María Sicilia are present in public and private collections in Europe, the United States and Asia, among others: Museum of Modern Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; M+ Museum, Hong Kong; Musée National d'Art Moderne / Centre Pompidou, Paris; CAPC Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux; Fundació Museu d'Art Contemporani, Barcelona; Colección Arte Contemporáneo, Fundación La Caixa in Barcelona; CAAM, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid; Colección Banco de España, Madrid; Colección Comunidad de Madrid, among many more.

Miguel Albero. Born in Madrid at the turn of the last century, inevitably arriving late to this one that begins. He has cultivated all genres indiscriminately, as he has so far published a book of short stories, four novels, three collections of poems and four essays. It only lacks the prospectuses for medicines, although it has already presented several proposals to companies in the sector. It has, in its scarce and suffered to have, the prize Gil de Biedma of poetry, the Málaga of essay and the Vargas Llosa of novel.

El Instante Fundacion. It arises in 2017 with a will to carry out a reflection on the present time in our lives, from different practices such as science and art. With the aim of collaborating with other foundations and institutions in the development of various projects, El Instante Fundacion organizes art exhibitions and concerts among other initiatives of cultural, scientific and social interest, and a residency program for artists and non-artists. The work of Boltanski, Miguel Angel Campano and Nam June Paik has been exhibited in this beautiful, ample industrial space, former bus station, and actions such as the *Time Auction* have been carried out, as well as concerts in collaboration with the Albeniz Foundation. El Instante develops its projects in Spain and Japan.