

ALFONSO BORRAGÁN

“NO MAN’S LAND”

15 DES 2018 / 17 MAR 2019

The exhibition “No man’s Land” is the first solo exhibition of **Alfonso Borrágán (Santander, 1983)** in Palmadotze. The artist presents fragments of a long-running, still active project, which has been developed since 2009.

“No man’s Land” is a collective research project. The game and the river become revelators of illicit actions and practices that try to restore a space without owner, forgotten and free of social norms. The project explores the game, in its broadest conception, and is unveiled as a strategy of observing the context and its inhabitants.

The river has been constituted as a space away from the watchful eyes, free of social norms and possessors. No man’s land where by genesis nothing is stable. In it everything is diluted or moved. The change in the relationship between the river and men, their uses and their appropriations, is constant. This bond continues to transform and today oblivion has weakened the symbolism and the meeting that took place there. Our relationship with the river is temporary and always from its limits. A ‘No man’s Land’ with which man constantly redoes his relationships. The river, even in its stillness, always flows. To observe the river is to look in the past, it is to remember the drop that passed. The submerged state is a habitable place only temporarily for human beings, but paradoxically we cannot survive without it. This unstable and paradoxical relationship generates a relational vortex. A dynamic space where the pact is always transformed. A potential site for creating temporary states. The artistic practice of Alfonso Borrágán is articulated between research, teaching and production. His work has been described as a *vague momentum*, the critical moment in which image generation is enhanced. As an artist, he reflects through images that do not exist and graphics and latent traces of the experience. Through tests of overlay, distortion, concealment or reformulation, it explores its eventual limits. It elaborates its processes from the vacuums of vision, the measurement of the non-measurable or the paradoxes that reverse popular and scientific beliefs. His work can be interpreted as the revelation and follow-up of an unreproducible experience. His works try to channel an experience, build situations and devices that are born to be consumed and that try to modify the perception of reality, interfere or expand it. These develop at the symbiotic level with man, through a correspondence that is activated through it and disappears with it. His works are articulated between them as part of a system of relationships in process. As part of its working methodology it activates long periods of research related to the context. Build teams of scientists, anthropologists, geologists and other technicians who expand and develop different visions during these processes.

PALMADOTZE

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Alfonso Borragán studied Fine Arts at the University of Barcelona and the MFA Slade School of Fine Arts in London, where he currently lives. He has developed and shared jobs in Spain, Portugal, Germany, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Norway, Canada, US, Colombia and India. His latest work has been seen in Plataforma Bogotá (Fosphofagia 04); at the Cervantes Institute in New York (Documentation of 19 days living in a cave); at Slade School of Fine Arts, London; Khoj Artist Association, India (Phosphofagia 03); or Blackboxxx, Basel (Watergames). He is currently a lecturer in the Arts and Science (BASc) program at University College London and has taught classes, workshops and lectures at the Slade School of Fine Art, Camberwell College of Arts, London College of Communication, Swansea Metropolitan, Plymouth University of Arts, University of Cantabria, University of Barcelona, Institute of Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (IAAC) or at the Institut d'Estudis Fotogràfics de Catalunya. Selection of latest projects and exhibitions: The Shape of Memory (Botín Foundation, Workshop, 2017); action (Centro Huarte, Navarra, Workshop, 2016); Marentus" The Wax Gland (La Place, BCN, Show, 2016); Marentus." La Place & FoodCultura (BCN, Action, 2016); Light Hunters: Photosynthesis. (Hangar, BCN, Workshop); La Línea (Bogotá, Action, 2015); Primary Sector (MUSAC León, Show, 2015); Ars'tronomy (The House On. Madrid. Show, 2015); Landscapes, the stigma of the social (Curated by Imma Prieto, Palmadotze. Barcelona. Show, 2015) Ap(p)artament (Sant Andreu Contemporary. Barcelona. Show, 2014); Etzi (Bethnal Green Church, London, Show, 2014); Litofagos: 'rolito(Born Cultural, Barcelona, Show, 2014); Black Ceramics (Palmadotze: Reset II, BCN, 2013).