



La Mafia de la Basura

The Gift of Blood

Berlín

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Mexico has been the bridge between Latin America and the North American countries during several centuries, due to its privileged geopolitical condition: the pre-Hispanic legend says that Mexico is the navel of the moon. That takes us back to the beginning of humanity, when the first inhabitants walked from Africa to Europe and Asia, and later crossed the Strait of Bering, to finally reach America, and little by little they advanced towards the south. Nowadays we see Mexico as a funnel, that keeps a multicultural heritage of indigenous communities that have given Mexico a face that few know well.

The immense cultural wealth that exists in America transcends borders. The history of American colonization, particularly the Mexican one, shows a subtle process of syncretization, an amalgam of unique universes coexisting in harmony in spite of invasions, wars, walls and even abandonment. It is, therefore, naive to think of American society segmentation in a physical way. America knows that the most dangerous frontiers are those imposed by racist and conceited ideologies.

However, in contemporary history, American visitors, those who invade and then conceive reality in monetary terms, think that America is a single country and the rest of the continent is an unknown abyss. Nonetheless, Mexicans and Latin Americans, know that the first invasion by visitors was targeted to the place that now they call home. Something curious about this is that the initial inhabitants of North America, who have overcome the conquest, the invasion, the theft of their territories, and the indiscriminate exploitation of their lands, are now the uncomfortable characters in English-speaking America.

Berlin, city of the wall. Its citizens know what it is to live among conceited and irrational wills; they know what it is to dream about walking across the street and being involuntarily owners of everything in it; they also know that there is no wall, barrier or building that can contain the natural intentions of a community. In the same way, Mexican people are aware and proud of their history and multicultural condition. This is the reason why now's the right time and place to make synergy.



La Mafia de la Basura

The Mexican art collective called "La Mafia de la basura" (the Garbage Mafia) decided to make this exhibition with the collaboration and support of Palast Gallery in Berlin and 66-5 Gallery in Mexico, making a brief representation of the current Mexican society role in America with its multiple nuances, influences and its cultural-political mediator status.

We give space to our imaginary and we know how to carry our tradition and our cosmovision, founded on the principle of multiculturalism. We want to reconsider opening new gaps, tracing new routes, paving new roads, digging exit tunnels, flying parachutes that drift through the air and land in any city willing to listen.

We believe art is the strength a culture has to make language the best tool to reconstruct its past always in new ways.

The Garbage Mafia is formed by 10 artists with unique graphic and pictorial contrasting proposals. Its first project in 2015, "The lost kids" was presented at 66-5 Gallery in Mexico City as a collective exhibition. Since then, the group has held two more exhibitions where it presented painting, drawing, installation and video pieces.

On this occasion, it takes up different ideologies that coexist between mysticism and pre-Hispanic spirituality, the ephemeral condition of urban landscapes and technological ecosystems. Not to define an identity, but to reconstruct it every day through its cultural heritage. Like the honorable self-sacrifice of the Aztecs, Mexican identity remains even in the world of death and it's rebuilt in our blood; blood that brought us into the world and keeps us in the endless and indivisible cycle of life and death.

We regret not being what other Americans expected, not being the sensitive artists waited to be seen in the galleries. As a bet on imagination, we have represented the multiple faces of the flying coin and confronted them from all possible angles

This is how the wall is destroyed before the first stone is laid.