



ISABEL CROXATTO

GALERIA

PRESS RELEASE

Isabel Croxatto Galería

New Surrealisms and Practices from the South at CAN Art Fair Madrid

March 5-8 | STAND B-12

On the occasion of its 10th anniversary — now CAN Art Fair, formerly UVNT — the fair consolidates itself as a platform for cultural reflection and projection. Isabel Croxatto Galería returns for its third consecutive year, reaffirming its commitment to the international projection of Latin American contemporary art.

In the **FOCO LATAM** section, curated by Christian Viveros-Fauné, the gallery presents a duo by Carolina Muñoz and Nelson Hernández under the framework of *New Surrealisms*. As the curator states:

“New Surrealisms is not a revival, but a critical and contemporary rereading of that impulse which sought to free the image from the limits of representation and open art to the flows of the unconscious, the dreamlike, and the symbolic.”

He further notes:

“Amid technological acceleration and the collapse of meaning, art once again becomes a field of resistance, where the irrational is no longer a deviation but a path toward emotional and existential truth.”

Within this context, *Convertida en Flor* and *Fever Dreams* activate painting as a space where the visible fractures and the invisible takes form. Muñoz explores bodily transformation and vegetal fusion as psychic territory shaped by memory and vulnerability. Hernández employs digital layering and perceptual instability to capture the simultaneity of a globalized world.

In the **Galleries** section, the gallery presents works by Mara Faúndez, Joaquín Reyes, and Vicente Prieto Gaggero — including ceramic sculpture — expanding the material and symbolic dialogue around body and image.

This participation is made possible thanks to the support of Chile’s Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Heritage.

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CAN ART FAIR

MATADERO MADRID

PLAZA DE LEGAZPI, 8



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ISABEL CROXATTO GALERIA · CAN Art Fair Madrid 2026 · Stand B-12 FEATURED ARTISTS

Carolina Muñoz is a Chilean visual artist who holds a degree in Visual Arts and a diploma in Aesthetics of Photography from the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Her painting draws from art history and everyday life, developing a new figuration that merges classical references with contemporary scenes. Through vibrant and expressive compositions, she explores gender and sexuality as territories where social impulses and anxieties emerge. The grotesque functions as a tool to expand the figure beyond conventional limits, creating an ambiguous tension between the everyday and the fantastic.

She has exhibited at major Chilean institutions, including the Museum of Contemporary Art (MAC), the Museum of Visual Arts (MAVI), the Museum of Modern Art of Chiloé (MAM), Centro Cultural Las Condes, and Sala de Arte CCU, as well as in Santiago, Buenos Aires, Hong Kong, New York, Istanbul, and Madrid.

In 2024, she received the CCU Art Grant and completed a residency at ISCP, New York. Her work is held in institutional and private collections in Chile, Argentina, the United States, France, Hong Kong, Turkey, and Singapore.

She lives and works in Santiago, Chile.

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Joaquín Reyes is a visual artist who graduated from Universidad Finis Terrae, with additional studies in audiovisual arts at IUNA (Buenos Aires) and mentorship under Natalia Babarovic. He worked for five years as an assistant to artist Ismael Frigerio, an experience that significantly shaped his practice.

His work is grounded in a rigorous investigation of painterly language. He develops an internal system of rules that emerge through making: repetition becomes method and structure. Working frontally on the canvas, Reyes builds compositions from the center outward in a process that is almost choreographic. The resulting image—without perspective or depth—proposes a direct relationship with the viewer, comparable to a scanning logic.

He has exhibited at the National Museum of Fine Arts of Chile, MAVI, Matucana 100, the National Library of Buenos Aires, Savvy Contemporary (Berlin), and the Chapelle de L'Hôtel-Dieu (France), among others, across Chile, Argentina, Germany, France, and Canada.

He lives and works in Santiago, Chile.



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GALERIA

Mara Faúndez is a Chilean visual artist who holds a degree in Arts from the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. She grew up in Paine, a rural area south of Santiago, a landscape that continues to inform her visual imagination.

Her work constructs narratives drawn from the anecdotal and the intimate, often through female figures that function as autobiographical projections. Painting becomes a space of personal confrontation, incorporating everyday objects and textual references as secondary images. She explores love, desire, anxiety, identity, and sexuality within familiar settings shaped by a subtle atmosphere of fantasy. Color saturation and chromatic interaction are central to her pictorial research.

Her debut solo exhibition, *Ayer y Hoy* (Isabel Croxatto Galería, 2023), marked her international recognition. Her work is part of institutional and private collections in Chile, the United States, Canada, Germany, Turkey, and Australia.

She lives and works in Santiago, Chile.

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Vicente Prieto Gaggero is a visual artist and sculptor who completed a postgraduate degree in Contemporary Applied Arts, specializing in Ceramics, at Escola Massana in Barcelona.

His practice positions clay at the center of a political and cultural inquiry that bridges pre-colonial techniques and contemporary theory. From a posthumanist perspective, he reflects on the human condition in the Anthropocene and on the relationship between body, matter, and the city. His sculptures combine fired clay with industrial materials, tensioning the organic and the synthetic and symbolizing the friction between nature and technology.

His experience as a Latin American artist living in Europe informs his work, in which the body appears as a territory that can be intervened in, reconstructed, and transformed—much like contemporary cities.

He has undertaken residencies in Barcelona, Madrid, and Coruña, and has exhibited since 2014 in Chile, Peru, Costa Rica, Mexico, the United States, and Spain.

He lives and works in Madrid.

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GALERÍA



Nelson Hernández is a Chilean visual artist born in Patagonia. He studied Art at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and earned a Master's degree in Painting from the Royal College of Art, London.

His practice reflects on the effects of globalization on the construction of contemporary identity. Drawing from art history and popular culture, he appropriates and reinterprets images through layering, stylistic displacement, and painterly experimentation. The coexistence of the historical and the contemporary, the revered and the banal, lies at the core of his investigation.

Through technically versatile painting, Hernández explores tensions between memory, belonging, and representation, conceiving painting as both a formal and conceptual tool.

In 2024, he completed a residency at GlogauAIR (Berlin), and in 2025, he was selected for the Herbert Smith Freehills Portrait Award at the National Portrait Gallery, London. His work is held in private and institutional collections in Chile, the United States, the United Kingdom, and India.

He lives and works in London.

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Isabel Croxatto Galería is an international platform for contemporary art, founded in 2012 by choreographer and performance researcher Isabel Croxatto. With a curatorial line focused on new figuration, its represented artists explore and challenge the boundaries between body, memory, and archive, proposing languages and aesthetics that invite reflection on the issues and opportunities of our time.

Committed to promoting contemporary art from the Global South, Isabel Croxatto Galería has specialized in discovering and supporting new talents, guiding them in the development of their careers at a national and international level. This is achieved through a robust program of annual exhibitions, participation in renowned international fairs, the *La Embajada* residency program, and the strategic design of institutional collaborations aimed at enhancing the reach of its emerging and established artists.

Member of Arte & Punto, Cultural Agents Association.

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