

ISABEL CROXATTO

GALERÍA



PRESS RELEASE


ISABEL CROXATTO GALERÍA PRESENTS *CUIR*,
INTERNATIONAL GROUP EXHIBITION CURATED BY CHIACHIO & GIANNONE

Isabel Croxatto Galería, international contemporary art gallery based in Santiago, presents *CUIR*, international group exhibition curated by the Argentinean artistic duo **Chiachio & Giannone**. *CUIR* features the work of 20 Latin and North American artists, selected by **Leo Chiachio** and **Daniel Giannone**, who represent a trans-generational constellation of queer creators, a concept taken not only from non-heteronormative affections, but also from the unconventional use of materiality and representation. *CUIR* will be **presented online starting 13 January** in the virtual space **ICG+**.

Isabel Croxatto Galería enters 2021 with its fourth virtual exhibition: *CUIR*, curated by Chiachio & Giannone. Upon the invitation made by gallery director **Isabel Croxatto** to rethink the role of art in these times of pandemic, artists Leo Chiachio and Daniel Giannone developed a curatorial proposal that gathers a diverse group of creators revolving around the queer universe, with perspectives from a variety of territories, including **Aaron McIntosh** (United States), **Cristina Coll** (Argentina), **Curtis Putralk** (Chile/France), **Joey Terrill** (United States), **Juvenal Barría** (Chile), **Max Colby** (United States), **Rodrigo Mogiz** (Brazil), **Rubén Esparza** (United States), and **Sebastián Calfuqueo** (Chile), among others.

With practices in embroidery, photography, drawing, painting, video and performance, the artists dialogue from the transversality, the generational crossing and the experimentation of languages, in a virtual staging that mixes the domestic with a playful and realistic approach, in times of a necessary common meeting.

The curators take the term *CUIR*, a Hispanisation of the English word **queer** –a word reappropriated by the LGBTQIA+ community from denigration and insult into empowerment and resistance–, to conceptualise their proposal. ‘The queer has a broader sense: it’s not only about breaking out of the sex-gender binary categories, but also about a theory, methodology and practice that characterises a desire, an affection, and we might say that its main power lies in its role as a performative act’, Chiachio & Giannone explain.



‘We are interested in depicting a choral narrative arising from different scenarios around the world, using different languages, but with the same poetics. We seek to give visitors the warmth and humour that has always been present in our artistic pursuits regarding social issues’, they add.

The invited artists belong to what the curators call ‘a familial constellation in art’: creators whom they have discovered over the years, with whom they share interests in the search for new meanings, and whose works they have fallen in love with.

About this experience, Isabel Croxatto comments: ‘In these times of isolation, working on a collective project with artists living in different parts of the world has been both refreshing and hopeful. I am grateful for the generosity of Leo and Daniel, and of all the participating artists, who accepted our invitation in such complex times, for daring to take this chance out of the box.’

The virtual tour through the exhibition has been developed by the interdisciplinary collective **deeptime.art**, and produced with the support of **ProChile**. Unlike Isabel Croxatto Galería’s previous virtual exhibitions, the tour through *CUIR* emulates a music video to the rhythm of disco music. During the 1970s, Disco was the space of communion on the dance floor for all those who were excluded from the male, binary and heterosexual hegemony: Disco was liberation, the mass arrival of female, gay, Black and Latinx diversity to a celebration that could dance to the beat of subversive hymns full of drama, pain, reflection, resurgence and resistance under a ball of mirrors and coloured lights.

‘In these new times of health crisis, in which we are all unable to attend and live an exhibition experience as we were used to, and now undergoing the virtual experience to compensate for our physical isolation, we considered that the possibilities offered by the virtual gallery concept were quite interesting’, Chiachio & Giannone affirm. ‘Being able to transfer the experience we had from the revolution that music enjoyed years ago with the appearance of the music video, allows us to recreate or envision a story to bring us back, in some way, to those shared memories. The on-site experience is irreplaceable, but this medium expands a world of possibilities for us to meet again, just as we used to do at an opening or on the dance floor’, the artists add.

CUIR, virtual exhibition curated by **Chiachio & Giannone**, will be available online starting 13 January 2021 at isabelcroxattogaleria.com, with free access from anywhere in Chile and the world.

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Featured Artists:

Aaron McIntosh (United States) • Catalina Schliebener (Chile/United States) • Chiachio & Giannone (Argentina) • Cristina Coll (Argentina) • Curtis Putralk (Chile/France) • Federico Casalinuovo (Argentina) • Franco Mehlhose (Argentina) • Gabriel García Román (Mexico/United States) • Joey Terrill (United States) • John Thomas Paradiso (United States) • Juvenal Barría (Chile) • Matías de la Guerra (Argentina) • Marino Balbuena (Argentina) • Max Colby (United States) • Paloma Castillo (Chile) • Rebecca Levi (United States) • Rodrigo Mogiz (Brazil) • Rodri & Lenny (Uruguay) • Rubén Esparza (United States) • Sebastián Calfuqueo (Chile)

CUIR | Curated by Chiachio & Giannone

ICG+ | Virtual Exhibition

13 January – 10 March | 2021

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[PREVIEW](#)

ICG+, Isabel Croxatto Galería's virtual exhibition space, is developed with the support of **ProChile**, agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile for the promotion of Chilean industries abroad.

Artistic duo **Chiachio & Giannone** is comprised by **Leo Chiachio** (Buenos Aires, 1969) and **Daniel Giannone** (Córdoba, Argentina, 1964), a couple both in art as in life, living and working together in Buenos Aires since 2003. Both of them have academic studies in painting, whereas they've decided to use textile art as the language to tell their story, embroidering as if they painted with needles and thread.

Their recent work consists of pieces made of domestic materials rescued from friends' homes as well as their own, telling or bearing the recent story of their places of origin. Along with their exhibitions around the world, Chiachio & Giannone work with local communities in the creation of collaborative pieces that celebrate diversity, blurring gender lines and questioning the way identities, especially LGBTQ+, have been presented by history.

Their project *Celebrating Diversity* was presented by the Museum of Latin American Art in Los Angeles (California) in 2019, and at the LA Art Show (Venice, CA) in February 2020. Their exhibition *Genio Doméstico*, presented by Isabel Croxatto Galería as part of the latest edition of Gallery Weekend Santiago from October through December 2019, was the couple's first show in Chile.

Due to the onset of the pandemic, Leo and Daniel had to finish their participation in an artist-in-residence programme at Lux Institute in San Diego, California, earlier than expected, running from January through March 2020.

Chiachio & Giannone live and work in Buenos Aires.



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Isabel Croxatto Galería, international art platform, was founded in 2012 as a space of excellence focused on emerging and established artists with national and international recognition.

The gallery centers its endeavours on presenting and promoting contemporary art from the south of the world, boosting the work of artists in Chile and abroad, contributing to the renovation of ways of art collecting, and breaking into new markets for contemporary art in collaboration with artists, curators, collectors, and public and private institutions.

Its program of audience development encourages the dialogue between the spectator and the artwork on a personal scale and in a welcoming environment, creating links and a close approach to the contemporary practices of its artists. Along with its annual program of solo exhibitions, the gallery holds group shows through collaborative curatorships, creating crossovers between art and context. In addition, it takes part in renowned international contemporary art fairs, such as Art Central Hong Kong and Contemporary Istanbul, fostering innovative and avant-garde projects through global promotion. In 2020, **ICG+** is added to its portfolio, a virtual exhibition space developed to host a program of exhibitions specially designed for an online experience, taking the work of its artists to every corner of the planet.

The artists' searches that Isabel Croxatto Galería's curatorial project conveys revolve around contemporary problems of the human condition, from the intimate and social body, from memory and archive, from the analogue and the digital. Inspired by figurative art, each of them, through a variety of media, aesthetically proposes unique and challenging enquiries and responses that invite us to reflect on the times we live in.

Winner of the Best Exhibition Prize | Gallery Weekend Santiago 2018

Isabel Croxatto Galería is a member of **AGAC**, Association of Contemporary Art Galleries of Chile, and is sponsored by **SÍSMICA**, sector brand for the Chilean visual arts, and **ProChile**, agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Chile for the promotion of Chilean industries abroad.

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