

ISABEL CROXATTO

GALERÍA



PRESS RELEASE

ISABEL CROXATTO GALERÍA PRESENTS *EL CONVULSIONADO PRESENTE*,
FIRST SOLO EXHIBITION IN CHILE BY ARTIST JOHANS PEÑALOZA

Isabel Croxatto Galería, international art platform based in Santiago, Chile, presents *El Convulsionado Presente*, a solo exhibition by the visual artist **Johans Peñaloza**. The show, which will be **on view on-site from 16 March to 13 April**, gathers a series of paintings that explore the tensions between violence and power.

The 18 October Chilean social outburst was a major influence on the work of Johans Peñaloza, who became interested in the circulation of information and images, especially through mobile devices and social media. With his digital camera, he documented what was happening in the streets after the protests, capturing moments of ruins, fire and destruction in different parts of Santiago.

These photographs of remnants of human occupation became models for his paintings. The transition from the speed of the streets to the static of the digital record, and then to the silent but unconstrained reflection of the acrylic on the raw canvas, created a shift in the process of documentation, moving from the objectivity of the camera to the subjectivity of the canvas. As the artist calls it: “reality perceived in situ or devices”. As a witness to the revolt, Peñaloza portrayed the beauty of the city after the destruction, producing a series he titled *Ensamblajes Territoriales* with images of a dystopian human landscapes.

El Convulsionado Presente features a previously unseen part of *Ensamblajes Territoriales*, developed from 2020 to the present, along with new medium-format paintings in which Peñaloza explores tensions between violence and power. “My paintings work with the idea of instability, both between the image that reproduces the impression of light, its context and diffusion, as well as in the perception of the real,” the artist says.

“There is also an instability that I perceive when I see how in society there is space and domination of disposable objects, of debris and cracks, of objects used to exert force or power, and of force exercised body to body,” Johans Peñaloza adds. Thus, *El Convulsionado Presente* features images that delve into the tension of antonyms derived from violence, such as the religious imagery that abounds in narco weaponry or expendable technology, all the way to a postcard of a Santa Claus being detained by police forces; images that, through the painting, are exhibited as a “post-calamity reflection”, describing symptoms of something more serious.



ISABEL CROXATTO

GALERÍA

The curatorial text for the exhibition was written by **Carolina Hermosilla**, Bachelor of Arts from the Universidad UNIACC (Santiago). “Painting, as a chosen medium of representation, transmutes the event that highlights that lapsus, that transitory and liminal moment of instability that has to be crucial, since it is the instant in which the ‘one’ becomes the ‘other’, and the symbol emerges,” Hermosilla says. “Johans Peñaloza’s paintings enunciate this transmutation, a transmutation inherited from violence, both as a means of control and its counterpart, a weapon of subversion. City furniture and rubble are expropriated to assemble a barricade, wounded asphalt is taken away as ammunition for defence,” she explains.

El Convulsionado Presente is the first solo exhibition in Chile by the artist Johans Peñaloza, which is preceded by his previous solo show, *Ensamblajes Territoriales*, presented by Isabel Croxatto Galería at Galería Nueva in Madrid in June 2021.

El Convulsionado Presente, solo exhibition by **Johans Peñaloza**, can be visited from 16 March to 13 April, from 15.00 to 19.00h, at Isabel Croxatto Galería, by appointment at contacto@isabelcroxattogaleria.com

Free Admission | Limited Capacity | Mobility Pass

EL CONVULSIONADO PRESENTE | JOHANS PEÑALOZA

Curatorial Text | Carolina Hermosilla

16 March – 13 April | 2021

ISABEL CROXATTO GALERÍA

Napoleón 3242, Las Condes | Metro El Golf

Santiago 7550215 Chile

contacto@isabelcroxattogaleria.com

www.isabelcroxattogaleria.com

www.isabelcroxattogaleria.cl
contacto@isabelcroxattogaleria.cl
+ 56 9 94340011
Santiago, CHILE

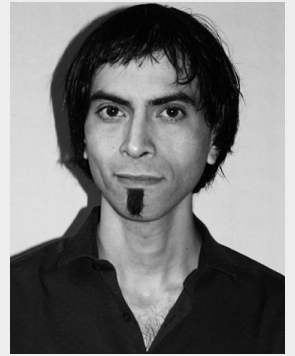
For further press information, contact Nicolás De Sarmiento | comunicaciones@isabelcroxattogaleria.com

JOHANS PEÑALOZA | BIO

Santiago, Chile, 1989

Johans Peñaloza is a visual artist, Bachelor of Visual Arts from UNIACC University in Santiago, Chile.

With studies in painting, drawing, engraving, goldsmithing and ceramics, his work is developed mainly in the graphic and pictorial fields, gathering and abstracting images taken by him or archived from different digital media. The captured image is used as a model, which he replicates, through lines or pigment, as a tool to initiate a dialogue with an interlocutor, from which ideas emerge to signify and conclude the painting. In this way, the artist proposes painting as a tool to establish the phenomenon of the union between the public and the intimate, between the ideas of the other and his work, and between himself and his peers in their territory.



His work has been exhibited collectively at ARCIS University, UNIACC University, Taller Bloc, Sala de Arte CCU and Isabel Croxatto Galería, in Chile. His first solo exhibition, *Ensamblajes Territoriales*, was presented by Isabel Croxatto Galería at Galería Nueva in Madrid on June 2021.

Johans Peñaloza lives and works in Santiago.

CAROLINA HERMOSILLA | BIO

Santiago, Chile, 1992

Carolina Hermosilla is a visual artist, Bachelor of Visual Arts from UNIACC University in Santiago, Chile.

Her work focuses on theoretical research and critical exploration of the digital image, its circulation and effects between humans/organic bodies and technology, exploring its operativity with anthropological intent and images as proximate archaeologies of contemporary being.



Carolina Hermosilla lives and works in Santiago.



ISABEL CROXATTO

GALERÍA

Isabel Croatto Galería was founded in 2012 by Chilean choreographer **Isabel Croatto** centred on presenting, supporting, and promoting contemporary art from the South of the world. In 2020, Isabel Croatto Galería incorporated ICG+, an innovative virtual exhibition conveying architectural elements and technology into an art of experience, introducing contemporary Latin American artists to a broader global audience. The gallery has established international recognition with institutions and collectors at art fairs in Art Central Hong Kong and Contemporary Istanbul and built a qualitative program of group shows through global, collaborative curatorships. The gallery represents a dynamic constellation of artists working within contemporary issues of the human condition; from the intimate and social body, from memory and archive, from the analogue and the digital.

Isabel Croatto Galería is a member of AGAC, Association of Contemporary Art Galleries of Chile, 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.

ISABEL CROXATTO GALERÍA

Napoleón 3242, Las Condes

Santiago 7550215 Chile

+56 9 9434 0011

www.isabelcroattogaleria.com

contacto@isabelcroattogaleria.com

www.isabelcroattogaleria.cl
contacto@isabelcroattogaleria.cl
+ 56 9 94340011
Santiago, CHILE