



A
C

PRESS RELEASE

HAY UN GOYA EN LA SOPA, DE IVÁN CANDEO

Opening, April 30

Alarcón Criado presents the second solo exhibition of Iván Candeco at the gallery, entitled *Hay un Goya en la sopa*. It is based on the existence of a number of significant paintings attributed to the artist Francisco de Goya, that were acquired as original paintings by private collectors or sold in second-hand markets as authentic works by the Spanish painter. It was a scenario that became common all over the world, especially in France, Italy, and Austria, as well as in Spain and Venezuela.

Iván Candeco refers to the strategic means by which experts, journalists, critics and collectors took for granted the story of the presence of Goya's paintings in Venezuela. He is interested in the process of identifying graphics as "micro-signatures" and the subsequent certification of the paintings.

The exhibition brings together a series of drawings, photographic images and paintings in which elements typical of the apparatus of legitimization of works of art (legal documents, press articles, infrared reflectographies, arrows and signatures related to the Goya paintings in Venezuela) are stripped of validity and scientific evidence, replacing the utilitarian function that images have within the authentication process with a more symbolic one, with which to identify some distinctive features of an era and context. As Iván de la Nuez demonstrates in the text that he dedicates to the exhibition, "Goya is a state of mind of Western culture, the recurring adjective that best defines its consternations".

The show concludes with an installation of Chinese ink drawings on pages from a 2020 planner, alongside the piece titled *Un dólar*. As in the works dedicated to the Goyas of Venezuela, this piece deals with the fluctuations that take place in the artistic field regarding material, monetary and symbolic value.



BIOGRAPHY

Iván Candeo (Caracas, 1983)

Currently lives and works in Barcelona, Spain.

He has been part of an independent study group comprised of Venezuelan artists from different generations since 2004. In 2008, he obtained the title of Professor with a specialisation in Fine Art at the Instituto Pedagógico de Caracas. He graduated with a Masters in the History and Theory of Fine Art from the U.C.V. and with a Diploma in the Contemporary History of Venezuela from the Rómulo Betancourt Foundation. He has also carried out complementary studies in “experimental cinema” in the Aula Xcèntric at the CCCB in Barcelona and in 2018, was awarded a scholarship to study at the Laboratory of Contemporary Audiovisual Practices, Master LAV, in Madrid. He also participated in the artistic residency Lugar a Dudas, in Cali, Colombia run by Óscar Muñoz.

Some of his most notable recent solo exhibitions include: *Antes que, mientras que, más tarde*, Galería Carmen Araujo Arte, Caracas, Colombia (2021); *NOVÆ ANDALUSIÆ. Observante inestable*, Alarcón Criado Gallery, Seville, Spain (2019) and *Sin Acto*, Carmen Araujo Art Gallery, Caracas, Venezuela (2018).

He has participated in group exhibitions in several spaces in Latin America, the United States, Canada and Europe. They include: *Entre las recientes: JUNTOS APARTE - Entre nosotros y los otros*, MUNTREF Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2021); *Cinco itinerarios con un punto de vista*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, Spain (2020); *El revés de la trama - 45 salón nacional de artistas*, Bogotá, Colombia (2019); Archivo HAMACA (2018) Media and videoart distribution from Spain and Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain.