

# Galería Elba Benítez



## Francesc Torres

### *De colisiones en la autopista de la historia*

September – October 2019

The Galería Elba Benítez is pleased to announce that it will open the coming season with an exhibition by Francesc Torres, opening September 12th.

Entitled *De colisiones en la autopista de la historia* (Collisions on the highway of history), the exhibition will use the gallery space to conjure up a reflection on the confluences of history, ideology and aesthetics that underlie and intersect art and the artistic impulse, and at by extension on the fraught state of art in our time. Employing the rigorous yet nuanced strategies he has developed over nearly five decades of activity in Spain and internationally, in *De colisiones en la autopista de la historia* Torres arrives at a unique and unclassifiable exhibition form that is as complex as it is ambiguous and as elusive as it is aesthetically and intellectually powerful.

A pioneer of installation art in the 1970's and an eminence in the Spanish art world today, Francesc Torres (1948, Barcelona) works with a range of formats — including photography, essays, exhibition curating, film, language-based work, and interventions in public space — while creating research-driven projects that explore themes of memory, power, politics and history. He frequently employs non-art objects as cultural artifacts, incorporating them into installations where their historical charge is exposed and their poetic potential is allowed to emerge, while at the same time deftly parsing their concealed or camouflaged ideological codes.

Torres has had solo exhibitions at the Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA) (2018, 2008); Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC) (Barcelona, 2018); the International Center of Photography (New York, 2011); Artium, Centro-Museo Vasco de Arte Contemporáneo (Vitoria, 2009); Fundación Telefónica (Madrid, 2000); MIT List Visual Arts Center (Cambridge, 1998); IVAM - Institut Valencià d'Art Modern (Valencia, 1996); the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (Washington D.C., 1992); Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (Madrid, 1991); the Queens Museum (New York, 1988); the Nationalgalerie (Berlin, 1988), the Carnegie Institute (Pittsburgh, 1985); the Whitney Museum of American Art (New York, 1981, 1978); the Fundació Joan Miró (Barcelona, 1979) and elsewhere. He has participated in numerous group shows around the world and has been selected to participate in La Biennale di Venezia in 2019, 2013 and 1976.

*De colisiones en la autopista de la historia* has been organized in collaboration with the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC) and will form part of the Apertura Madrid Gallery Weekend program. It is Torres's fifth solo show at the Galería Elba Benítez.

Josep Maria Sert, installation view at *La caja entrópica*, MNAC - Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, Barcelona, 2018

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