

GALERIA MILLAN

ANA PRATA: MISS NATURAL AND OTHER PAINTINGS

Galeria Millan presents, from October 10 through November 12, 2017, **Miss Natural e outras pinturas** [*Miss Natural and other paintings*], Ana Prata's second solo show at the gallery. The exhibition occupies **Anexo Millan**, and feature twenty-two oil paintings on canvas varying between small and large formats. The artist operates with non-linear narratives, where thematic and formal aspects interlace. Each painting is to her a specific and unique way of organizing and presenting an idea, that when put together establishes new meaning. There is also a latent ambiguity in her work that can transit between humor, interiority and critical spirit.

Some groups of works are presented in this exhibition, among them: human figures, geometric forms, landscapes and abstract gestural paintings. A triangle can both present symbolic references – as in a kind of portal, or an idea of ascension – and can refer, by the way it was painted, to a pictorial vocabulary of the 20th century. When placed next to the paintings of female figures, other meanings can be attributed to them, forming a web that does not search for an answer but for paths of perception.

In the feminine context, the artist develops a character called *Miss Natural*, who appears in some works, and which may call to mind the idea of a “universal mother,” a mythical figure present in many pagan religions and cultures, or perhaps flirt with the *hippie* ideal of a “return to origins” and its remnants in the current culture. The work of the artist maintains an ambiguous character, a fact that becomes evident when we realize that the hand of one of these female figures resembles those of Mickey Mouse.

The landscapes of mountains and lakes are structured around the same design scheme (which has the unpretentiousness of a child's drawing), but with unique technique and visuality, creating varied, formally disparate temperaments. When looking at Ana Prata's work, the direct relationship that the artist establishes with several moments in the history of modern art is perceptible, as if this dialogue were a tool for her activity. However, Prata is not resistant to the diversity that this dialogue enables, but rather uses it for exercising freedom.

Ana Prata was born in Sete Lagoas, MG, in 1980, and currently lives and works in São Paulo, SP. She has a degree in Fine Arts from the University of São Paulo and was one of the nominees for the Pipa Prize 2017. The artist has had solo shows at the Hong Kong Art Basel (2017); La Maudite, Paris, France and Kubikgallery, Porto, Portugal (2015); Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London, United Kingdom (2016); Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo, Brazil (2012) and Centro Cultural São Paulo, Brazil (2009), among others. Group shows include *Os desígnios da arte contemporânea no Brasil*, MAC-USP, São Paulo, Brazil (2017); *O espírito de cada época*, at Instituto Figueiredo Ferraz, Ribeirão Preto, Brazil (2015); Festival Internacional de Arte Contemporânea SESC_Videobrasil, São Paulo, Brazil (2011 and 2013); *Os primeiros dez anos*, at Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo, Brazil (2011); and *Lugar Nenhum*, Instituto Moreira Salles, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2013).

Ana Prata: Miss Natural e outras pinturas

Anexo Millan - Rua Fradique Coutinho, 1416 - Vila Madalena - São Paulo
Tel - (11) 3031.6007

Opening: Tuesday, October 10, from 7 – 10pm

Visitation: Oct 11 through Nov 12, 2017. Mon - Fri, 10am to 7pm; Sat, 11am to 6pm.

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