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BEGOÑA ZUBERO



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Begoña Zubero (Bilbao, 1962)

Studied Audiovisual Communication at the Complutense University of Madrid (1980-1985). She trained as a photographer at Isabel Matoses' studio and at the School of Visual Arts in New York (1987-1990).

From the very first projects she has developed a photographic thesis of impeccable, formal and aesthetic technical invoice, in which documentation and research have allowed her to produce images of great intellectual depth.

Throughout her career she has traveled different genres, from realistic photography of urban spaces and still lifes to her experimentation with the abstraction of subjective photography. Attracted by the architecture of power of the European totalitarian regimes of the 20th century, she arrived in Rome in 2002, starting her project *Existez* (2002-2013). This project has also taken place in Berlin, Warsaw, in the concentration camps of Auschwitz, Birkenau and Majdanek, as well as in Moscow and Yerevan.

In 2012 she moved to Rome as a resident artist at the Royal Academy of Spain, from where she continued her exploration of the importance of

the idea of memory, participating in the ideological use of architectural and urban spaces.

As a consequence of his Italian time, Begoña projects in recent years have returned to issues related to the culture and recent history of this country. Together with the architect Ignacio González Galán, she participated in the XIV Venice Architecture Biennale, curated by Rem Koolhaas, with the *Cinecittà Occupata* project (2014), within the *Monditalia* section in the *Arsenale* space, providing photographs focused on the importance of architectural space and sociological of *Cinecittà*.

It has been part of the *Extraordinary Visions* exhibition, *Italy looks at us* (2016) at the MAXXI Museum in Rome, celebrated on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Italian Republic. The photographic selections on this occasion are part of the *Gente del Po* project, part of the interest in the complete relations between culture and ideology during the fascist period and specifically in the figure of Michelangelo Antonioni. This work was a tour in her career, presenting the landscape as an object of study as a repository of identity, memory and imagination. This project was presented in its entirety at the *Sala Arreguneta de Tabakalera* in San Sebastián (2017) and later at the *Niemeyer Center* in Avilés (2018).

In 2019 she participated in *Matera* in the events of the European Capital of Culture with the exhibition *La cultura è capitale*.

Begoña has carried out artistic residencies in *Cosenza* and in the *Dolomites*, developing in the latter the *Villaggio Eni* project, exhibited at the *Altxerri Gallery* during the *First San Sebastián Architecture Biennial* and at the *Luis Burgos Gallery* in Madrid in the context of the *PHotoESPAÑA 2018* festival.

Her last residence to date has been in *Iraq* at the end of 2018 with the sponsorship of the *Moving Artist Foundation*, an organization that aims to connect visual artists from conflict zones with those of the Basque Country. Among the projects carried out there we find *M/D (Mosul Demolition)*,

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which has given rise to the NEEEV exhibition, *Non è esotico è vitale* (2020) presented at the Fondazione Sant'Elia in Palermo.

It includes photographs of the moment when the ruined city returns to everyday life thanks to the surprising strength of the human condition after the terrible battle carried out against the Islamic State.

Begoña currently lives and works between Italy and Bilbao.

Individual exhibitions

- NEEEV, *Non è esotico è vitale* (2020) at Fondazione Sant'Elia, Palermo;
- *Culture è capitale* (2019) at the Motta Hypogeum, European Capital of Culture, Matera;
- *Villagio Eni* (2018) at the Altxerri Gallery, San Sebastián, and the Luis Burgos Gallery, Madrid;
- *Gente del Po* (2018) at Galería Vanguardia, Bilbao;
- *Gente del Po* (2018) at Centro Niemeyer, Avilés;
- Begoña Zubero. *GDP, Gente del Po* (2017) in Sala Artegunea Fundación Kutxa, Tabakalera, San Sebastián;
- *Nuova Roma: EUR* (2014) in Mercaderes del Arte, México DF;
- *E 42* (2013/2014) in Luis Burgos Gallery, Madrid / Altxerri Gallery, Donostia-San Sebastián;
- *Pueblos de colonización XX* (2012) at Photo Gallery 20, Bilbao;
- *Al Este de Borneo* (2011) in La Sonrisa de la Ballesta, Madrid; *Tempelhof* (2010) at Altxerri Gallery, Donostia-San Sebastián;
- *Cas & Gas* (2009) at Estiarte Gallery, Madrid / Sala Bastero, Andoain (Gipuzkoa) / Marzana Gallery, Bilbao;
- *Existez* (2007) at Sala Puerta Nueva, Córdoba / Altxerri Gallery, Donostia-San Sebastián / Sala BBK, Bilbao.

Collective exhibitions

- *The trip to Rome* (2019/2020) at Centro Niemeyer, Avilés, and Casa América, Madrid;
- *How to live with memory. Artistic attitudes to architecture and Francoism* (2018) in MUSAC, León;
- *Extraordinary visions. L'Italia ci guarda* (2016) at

MAXXI, Rome;

- *Pueblos de Tierra* (2016) in Palacio de la Merced, Córdoba;
- *A private passion, Colletion Circa XX Pilar Citoler* (2015) at Le Bellevue, Biarritz;
- *The translucent skin, Works from the Iberdrola Collection* (2014/2015) in Torre de Iberdrola, Bilbao / Centro Centro, Madrid;
- *Monditalia* (2014) in Fundamentals. 14th International Architecture Exhibition-La Biennale Di Venezia, Venice, 2014;
- *Spazi Aperti XII: What do the artist do in Rome? / Cosa fanno gli artisti a Roma?* (2014), in Accademia di Romania, Rome;
- *Station XV* (2013/2015) at the Royal Academy of Spain in Rome / Royal Academy of Fine Arts of San Fernando, Madrid;
- *Spazi Aperti XI: Borderless / Senza confini* (2013) at the Accademia di Romania, Rome;
- *Lavori in corso* (2012) at the Royal Academy of Spain in Rome;
- *Stations* (2012) at Fundación BilbaoArte, Bilbao;
- *Art as life. Circa XX Collection. Pilar Citoler* (2012) in Sala Kubo, Donostia-San Sebastián;
- *De paso en la Tierra-De passage sur la terre* (2011) at CICUS, Seville;
- *Media Noche en la ciudad* (2011) at ARTIUM, Vitoria-Gasteiz / Center d'art la Panera, Lleida;
- *Itineraries 09/10. XVII Plastic Arts Scholarships* (2011) at Fundación Botín, Santander;
- *11 International Gas Natural Fenosa Show* (2008/2010) in La Coruña;
- *The eye you see* (2007) at the Palacio de la Diputación, Córdoba.

Awards

- Gure Artea (1995) of the Basque Government;
- I International Prize for Contemporary Photography Pilar Citoler (2007);
- XVII Plastic Arts Grant (2009) from the Botín Foundation;
- Grant from the Spanish Academy in Rome (2012-2013) from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

Work in collections

- MAXXI, Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo, Rome;

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- Iberdrola Collection, Bilbao;
- ARTIUM, Basque Museum of Contemporary Art Center, Vitoria-Gasteiz;
- MUSAC, Museum of Contemporary Art of Castilla y León, León;
- Vitoria-Gasteiz City Council;
- Ars Fundum Collection;
- Caja Vital Collection;
- Circa XX Collection - Pilar Citoler;
- Ordoñez-Falcó Collection;
- Provincial Council of Córdoba;
- BilbaoArte Foundation, Bilbao;
- Government of Cantabria;
- Basque Government-Eusko Jaurlaritza;
- Marcelino Botín Foundation;
- Museo Cívico Irpino, Vallata, Italy;
- Photomuseum, Zarautz;
- University of Cordoba.