

THE INAUGURATION OF *CRISÁLIDAS* BY  
FERNANDO GUTIÉRREZ, THE PROJECT  
BESTOWED WITH THE SECOND EDITION OF  
THE LABjoven Experimenta PRIZE, TO TAKE  
PLACE AT LABoral THIS FRIDAY

Abel Hernández (El Hijo) will provide the inauguration with musical ambience with a concert, free of charge, that will begin at 8:30 PM.

The musician and composer from Madrid will present in Asturias his work that unfolds somewhere between dreams and lived experience.

The inauguration of *Crisálidas* [*Chrysalis*], a work of art by Asturian artist Fernando Gutiérrez, bestowed with the second edition of the LABjoven\_Experimenta Award, granted jointly by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Principality of Asturias (Instituto Asturiano de la Juventud), will take place at LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial this upcoming Friday, January 30th.

*Crisálidas* uses images taken from the mass media that the artist quickly and casually sketches on acetate in order to subsequently superimpose them on top of one another. In this way, hybrids and strange random combinations accidentally arise amongst the drawings. These *collages* that are the starting point for the installations, taking the form of a surrounding wall, and the animated videos that complete Fernando Gutiérrez's work, generate subjective atmospheres that function like an invitation to a world that iconographically borders the subconscious. *Crisálidas* is a work of art that renews the traditional technique of drawing from within, but at the same time manages to redefine it and situate it in the present through new techniques and media.

*Crisálidas*, "moving drawings made of light: mental landscapes in transformation," is, according to its author, a mental construction that uses this biological concept as a metaphor and organisational point of departure for a universe of events and fragmented emergences in transformation, inviting us to an architecture of instinctive and automatic recreational activities, akin to faintly conscious or unconscious mental states, between enveloping atmospheres of simultaneous presence and loss.

The inauguration of *Crisálidas*, that will begin at eight in the evening, will be provided with musical ambience: a live performance by the composer and musician from Madrid, Abel Hernández (El Hijo), that will begin half an hour later (at 8:30 PM)..

Abel Hernández has been focusing upon his solo career for three years, after ten years of experience working with groups (Migala, Emak Bakia). El Hijo is the group with which he released two EPs and the album *Las otras vidas*. In these one finds songs about characters that emerge from between dreams and lived experience, reverberating reflections of the world and human histories that, in one way or another, have a close connection with the most recent work by Fernando Gutiérrez. Gutiérrez decided to invite Hernández to take care of the musical dimension of the inauguration of *Crisálidas*, his installation in LABoral. The musical performance at this very special and unique occasion will not be a typical concert – even though a selection of songs by El Hijo will be performed acoustically – but will be a special sonic musical ambience, furtive and unpredictable.

## CREDITS

Fernando Gutiérrez: *Crisálidas*

DATES: 30.01.2009-06.04.2009

OPENING HOURS: From Wednesday to Monday, from 12:00 to 8:00 PM

AWARD BESTOWED BY: Ministry of Culture of the Principality of Asturias (Instituto Asturiano de la Juventud) and LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial

PRODUCED BY: LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial

VENUE: Gallery Platform 1 of LABoral

## THE AWARD

The LABjoven\_Experimenta Award is bestowed annually, intended for young Asturian artists or residents of the Principality of Asturias of no more than 35 years of age. Its purpose is to facilitate the presentation of experimental artistic projects (installations, multimedia installations, actions, interventions and any other kind of creative process) that are conceived specifically for installation in the Gallery Platform of LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial. Bestowed conjointly by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Principality of Asturias (Instituto Asturiano de la Juventud) and LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial, the award comes with a prize of 30,000 € intended for the production of the art work.

## THE JURY

Guillermo Martínez Suárez (Director of the Instituto Asturiano de la Juventud), Juan Antonio Álvarez Reyes and Jaime Luis Martín (art critics), Javier Panera (Programme Director of DA2 in Salamanca) and Rosina Gómez-Baeza (Director of LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial).

## THE ARTIST

With a Master's degree in Fine Arts from the University of Salamanca, Fernando Gutiérrez López (Oviedo, 1973) has carried out the majority of his artistic work in pictorial pursuits. In recent years, he has focused upon drawing, which he recuperates in its simplicity and immediacy,

experimenting with different procedures and techniques that end up being incorporated into his work as a process of articulated *collage* and animation as medium.

His works have recently taken on a marked provisional character in the structure of their supporting media. He has been carrying out different environmental projects, altering spaces and temporarily transforming them into mental landscapes through the use of enveloping graphic interventions that produce emotional atmospheres that are sensitive and occasionally playful.

Fernando Gutiérrez has had numerous individual and collective exhibitions and has participated in different institutional shows. His work can be found public and private collections such as Cajastur, Junta de Castilla y León and the Spanish embassies in Senegal, Qatar and Japan.

### THE CONCERT

DATE: 30.01.2009

TIME: 8:30 PM

Abel Hernández (El Hijo)

Abel Hernández was a composer, singer and musician in Migala and Emak Bakia as well as an artist producer for Grupo Salvaje and Aroah (amongst others).

Since 2005, he has been dedicated in mind and body to El Hijo – his solo Project of songs in Spanish – which has released the Eps *La piel del oso* (December 2005) and *Canciones Gringas* (September 2006) as well as the album *Las otras vidas* (June 2007), always with the record label Acuarela. In these works, Abel Hernández recuperates the Spanish language as kindling to ignite a voice that some have compared to that of Tom Waits, Nick Cave or Johnny Cash and which serves to sing songs that, with a confessional tone, carry a poetic weight and resonate with literary quality.

The compositions of Hernández are accompanied by his acoustic guitar and assisted in musical arrangement and production by Raúl Fernández "Refree." They have given El Hijo a rich and warm sound with results that resemble pop to acoustic rock to Anglo-Saxon folk of the 1960s. In recent years, El Hijo has given nearly 50 live performances in Spain, France and Portugal in different formats that vary from the intimacy of solo acoustic performances (guitar and voice) to pop-rock quartet, passing through other diverse formulas as well. He will record his second album in the first half of 2009.

(<http://elhijo.es> y <http://www.myspace.com/elhijo>)

LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial

Opening Hours: Wednesday to Monday, from 12:00 to 8:00 PM

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