

THREE WORKS BY ASTURIAN ARTISTS PRODUCED BY LABORAL TO BE EXHIBITED IN AUSTRIA

Calos Coronas will bring *It's Simply Beautiful Nowhere* to OK Zentrum (Linz) and Íñigo Bilbao and Román Torre will exhibit *TACs* and *Life Floor* in the new Ars Electronica museum, respectively.

Three works produced by LABoral will be on exhibit in Austria starting this upcoming January. These are: *It's Simply Beautiful Nowhere* by Carlos Coronas, *TACs* by Íñigo Bilbao and *Life Floor* by Román Torre.

Produced by the Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial for the exhibition *It's Simply Beautiful*, whose inauguration was in July of 2007, the art work *It's Simply Beautiful Nowhere* has already been on exhibit at the Seoul Biennial with notable success. Starting in January of 2009, Coronas will exhibit this piece at the OK Zentrum in Linz, Austria, a contemporary art centre that defines itself as "an experimental laboratory for the exploration of art."

TACs, Experimenting with biomedical imagery, an art work by Íñigo Bilbao produced by the Projects Office of LABoral, will be on exhibit starting on the 2nd of January in the new museum that Ars Electronica will open in the Austrian town of Linz. This same space will also house *Life Floor*, an art work by another Asturian artist Román Torre, also produced by the Centro de Arte for the exhibition *Homo Ludens Ludens* and that has already been on exhibit in Cairo, where it received the *Pluma de Oro* prize by the 'International Forum of Audiovisual Art for Youth' which was held in the Egyptian capital.

Ars Electronica began almost three decades ago as one of the most important art and technology festivals in the world. Currently directed by the Austrian artist Gerfried Stocker, a research and production centre (the Futurelab), the Ludwig Boltzmann institute for academic research and the "museum of the future" – the Ars Electronica Center – were added on to the festival. Coinciding with Linz becoming the next European Capital of Culture, a new venue will be opened on January second, doubling its exhibition space.

In this way, LABoral has taken another important step down the path that the Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial has embarked upon since its opening: supporting the production of work by Asturian artists, aiding those that want the opportunity to "test their mettle" on an international level. Further, LABoral has already brought some of the exhibitions presented by the Centro de Arte to other countries. The exhibition spaces of the Fundación Telefónica in Buenos Aires and Lima have hosted

Emergentes, an exhibition that will travel to Mexico, Chile and São Paulo in 2009. This upcoming March, ZKM, a centre of international reference for art linked to new *media*, located in the German city of Karlsruhe, will host *banquete_nodos y redes*, coproduced conjointly by LABoral with our Patron Fundación Telefónica and Seacex.

BIOGRAPHIES

Román Torre (Candás, Asturias, 1978) Torre is one of the representatives of a new generation of contemporary Spanish artists trained outside fine arts schools. He defines himself as a self-taught artist who evolved from his work as a designer to 'performance' art and artistic interventions. In 2001 he began working with recycled materials that, later, would evolve into serially produced designs and would become installations and other online interactive projects. In 2005-2006 he collaborated with the *Recetas Urbanas* studio, directed by the architect Santiago Cirugeda. He is currently a member of the Virtual Mogyoro studio (Budapest/Lisbon/Gijón) together with the architects Gergo Kukucska and Tania Magda do Santos. He received the INJUVE Young designer award in 2004.

Íñigo Bilbao (Ribadesella, 1975) is interested in the existing relationships between art, science and technology. He currently works with the representation of forms proper to medicine and biology by means of digital tools. In 2005, he received the CajAstur subsidy for artists which allowed him to make the leap to digital sculpture. In this way, using prototyping equipment, he was able to materialize his virtual art as physical art works. In 2007 he began experimenting with medical scanners in combination with prototyping machines. He has been exhibited in Shanghai (White Collar, Island 6 Art Center), Barcelona (*Autorretrato*, ArtFutura, Centro de Cultura Contemporánea de Barcelona), Valencia (*The Machine Manifesto*, Observatori, Museo de las Ciencias Príncipe Felipe) and Gijón (*Naturalezas Digitales*, Sala Cultural CajAstur Monte de Piedad).

Carlos Coronas (Avilés, 1964) holds a Master's degree in Fine Arts from the University of Salamanca. He combines creative with pedagogical tasks and is currently a professor at the Escuela Superior de Arte del Principado de Asturias (Avilés). He has an impressively large curriculum of exhibitions which include numerous awards and grants for his creativity. His first pictorial art works show a tendency towards abstraction determined by chromatic luminescence and a preference for uncommon formats and media, allowing him to bring about rich and varied connections in his pictorial treatment as well as in his use of media. Soon after, he turned to wood sculpture in which colour reveals alternate volumetric spaces and light appears as a substrate that determines form. Following this line of evolution, the artist introduced neon lights into his work in which this reference to pictorial work is reinforced by luminous compositions over pictorial surfaces that refer to classical geometric abstraction.

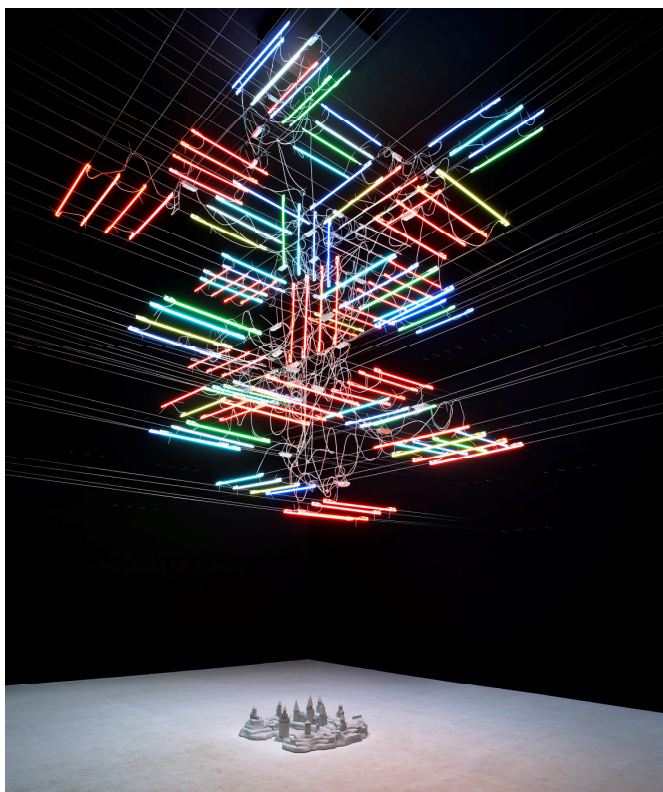


Photo: Marcos Morilla
It's Simply Beautiful Nowhere (2007). Carlos Coronas

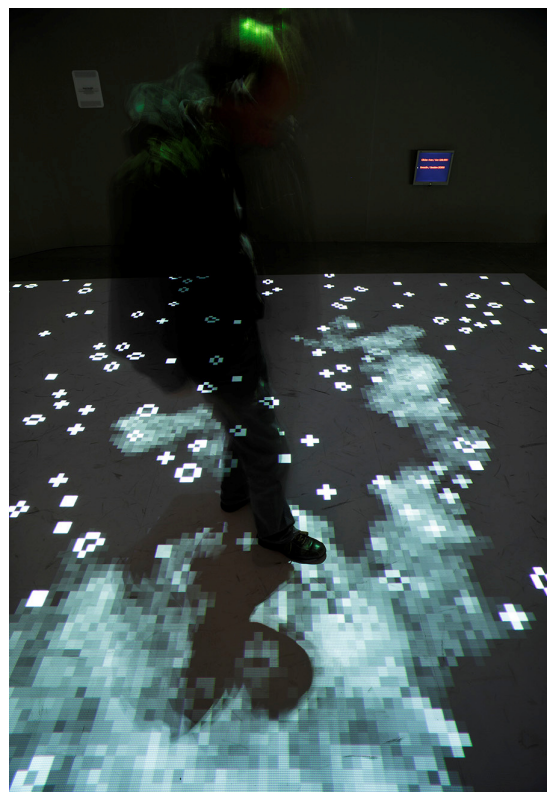


Photo: Marcos Morilla
Life Floor (2008). Román Torre



TACs (2008). Íñigo Bilbao

Photo: Marcos Morilla

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