

LA BOVERIE

EN

SALAZAR

40 YEARS OF PAINTING

31.8 > 20.10.2019
LIÈGE • LUIK • LÜTTICH

PRESS FILE



40 YEARS OF EXPLORATION (1979-2019)

Luis Salazar is constantly in the process of reinventing himself, without ever losing sight of his roots.

Thanks to vibrant colours, shapes and spaces that are associated to one another in a highly personal arrangement, Luis Salazar brings his passions together, organises chaos and creates canvases that capture the attention of the viewer.

A vital process, his exuberant, occasionally exacerbated painting explores every kind of format and medium; it is audacious and generous, enlivened by a sense of discovery and sharing.

With a Luis Salazar painting, one sees the artist and notices the filigreed faces of loved ones - maybe even your own...

Here, the principle of pictorial narration finds one of its most iconic representatives. Furthermore, the summation of 40 years of painting pushes us to update our mental imagery, thanks to work that earns our admiration.

**Jean Pierre Hupkens,
Councillor for Culture and
Tourism for the City of Liège**

Luis Salazar was born on 20 November 1956 in San Sebastián (Spain). At ten years old, he left his country – which had been decimated by Franco’s dictatorship – and came to Liège. He enrolled in the Academy of Fine Arts and trained as a painter. This 40-year retrospective showcases the evolution of his work from 1979 to 2019.

EXPLORATIONS AND DISCOVERIES

In 1979, Luis Salazar experimented with painting with a knife, giving his canvases a certain sense of relief. He worked with a diversified palette, where some spaces were worked on and others were more serene. This priming is a forerunner for what would become a continuous thread in his later works: a palette with bright or pale colours and a flat work comprising a variety of shapes, arranged side by side. He finished his artistic studies in 1983 and started to exhibit his paintings in various galleries.

LYRICISM AND CONSTRUCTION

His painting takes a particular turn in 1985: it is often composed of a dominant colour (blue, black, green, red) with trembling shapes emerging from this. They are primarily tapered and come together and combine in a space where they seem to float. Gradually more structured compositions would be built from this simple formal vocabulary, which were developed in preliminary projects. Salazar was now combining the lyricism of random shapes with the rigour of construction and flat colours.

FRENZY AND TENSION

Each quarter, Luis Salazar paints and exhibits at Belgian galleries at a frenetic pace; he presents paintings every two years. His compositions become more complex starting from 1993, when he starts opposing large surfaces with increasingly small shapes that are more and more deconstructed. Black, white and grey dominate the space and highlight the coloured tracks, creating a sense of tension and verve.

PAROXYSM AND JUBILATION

Exhibitions follow one after another and new locations become available to him. 2004 is the year of his first retrospective at Saint-Georges hall in Liège: 25 years of painting represented by one hundred paintings. His compositions have now become veritable labyrinths, sometimes approaching paroxysm, though large, peaceful spaces still appear in places. His palette, on the other hand, is less severe; first, it makes use of light green, then orange, pink, light blue, purple, etc.

NERVOUS AND JOYOUS BAROQUISM

“ [...] In his recent large formats, which are bursting with yellows, blues and greens and more dynamic than ever, Luis Salazar concentrates his repertory of shapes in certain areas or at the far edges, showcasing a nervous and joyous sense of baroque. Dynamic! ” (28 May 2008, Claude Lorent in Libre Belgique).

CURVES AND RELIEFS

The final canvases, which will close this exhibition, doubtlessly highlight major changes in his compositions: they are made up of navy blue and gold and depict a series of large curves, flights that seem to capture clusters of small, compressed shapes.

COMMISSIONER OF THE EXHIBITION

Grégory Desauvage, Curator of the Museum of Fine Arts in the City of Liège

ADMISSION :

(Luis Salazar + Permanent collection)

Adults : 10€

Groups, seniors, unemployed person : 8€

< 26 years : free

ONLINE TICKET :

www.laboverie.com

GUIDED TOUR :

+32 (0)4.221.93.03

reservation.tourisme@liege.be

Open Tuesday to Sunday from 10AM to 6PM.

Weekly closing on Mondays.

Closed on 25/12, 1/1, 1/5.

Parc de La Boverie, 3

4020 Liège

+32 (0)238.55.01

info@laboverie.com

www.laboverie.com

CONTACT

Commissioner of the exhibition

Grégory Desauvage | gregory.desauvage@liege.be | +32 (0)4.221.89.27

Press

Laura Dombret | laura.dombret@liege.be | +32 (0)4.221.93.17

Emmanuelle Sikivie | emmanuelle.sikivie@liege.be | +32 (0)4.221.93.22



LE FONDS EUROPÉEN DE DÉVELOPPEMENT RÉGIONAL
ET LA WALLONIE INVESTISSENT DANS VOTRE AVENIR



FÉDÉRATION
WALLONIE-BRUXELLES

