

Press Release

CARLOS SILVA

POLYPHONIC

or MUSIC IS GOING

Works on canvas and paper

13 to 30 July and

21 August to 30 September 2018

Preview: 12 July 2018, 7 - 9 pm

The artist will be present.

Goethestraße 2-3, 10623 Berlin
Entrance B via the courtyard



Carlos Silva, *Polyphonic 1*, 2018, 180 x 180 cm
Courtesy: The artist and Galerie Bernet Bertram

Galerie Bernet Bertram is pleased to present the first solo exhibition of **Carlos Silva**.

The works of the recent Berlin-based artist are precise arrangements of sweeping, geometric figures in luminous, life-affirming colors on canvas and paper, works which resemble painted installations, in the image continued and transformed scores.

As a visual artist Carlos Silva aims to reach an own visual language. While initially defining horizontal and vertical lines, lines, and structures, Silva increasingly discovered the phenomenology of roundness and curves, as in the 2017/18 *Colourtecture* series. So that the music moved increasingly into his work, specifically the polyphony. With momentum, dynamics and precision, Silva brings his own music into painting. Phonetic, rhythmic, contrapuntal elements. Red, blue, yellow and green oscillate in many voices, becoming tones in a fulfilled pictorial space, unfolding, superimposing and responding in innumerable resonances (*Polyphonic 1*).

Symphony in Blue works in large, irregular circles that at the same time transfer and multiply the artist's own gestural radius to the canvas. In the series *Turning Point 4 and 5* Silva creates microcosm and macrocosmic spaces through colored fields with expressive small circles in blues and reds interspersed with vertical and diagonal lines. *Selfportrait* and *En face* consist of two apparently separate image planes: The lower one shows the scale of the colors, which Silva then intones in the upper part in curves.

Silva creates three-dimensional microcosmic and macrocosmic rooms. He draws on techniques of brushwork from the old master calligraphy, working from the wrist. Gesture follows gesture up in this process, the simultaneity of the successive overall appearance connects to a visual unit. *Cosmos* (2017). Spheres, circles, rotating elements overlay or connect, perpetuating into the infinite and the immensity of the space. Here Silva comes to bizarre graphic results with monochromatic oscillations in cyan and a rich indigo (trilogy in blue), creating cylindrical structures in metallic colors that yield a series of lucid and diaphanous compositions.

Also in the small and medium formats of *Mazy Drawing* and *Mazy Motion* (2016/17) Silva takes up musical and poetic motifs (From Xanadu). At first they seem like labyrinthine aberrations, yet they follow their own principles of order. Here, Silva plays with color between saturation and deprivation, illustrating the superiority and subtlety that only a sensitive hand can give to a nearly dry brush.

For Carlos Silva, pictorial is never merely embellishment or decoration, but rather a phonetic imagery that arranges and communicates thoughts and feelings. Because his pictures are not one-to-one but ambiguous, truly collective. Polyphony instead of monotony.

Text: Christian Bertram



Carlos Silva, born in 1971 in Cali, the third largest city in Colombia. In the late 80s, he went to Bogota and studied art and architecture. 1999 he moved to Berlin to leave behind violence and chaos. Today he is part of the studio community "Milchhof" in Prenzlauer Berg and works as an artist, furniture designer and architect. Works by Carlos Silva have been shown in various solo and group exhibitions in France, the Netherlands, Mexico, Japan and Berlin. He is represented in various art collections, lives and works in Berlin.



UPCOMING

13 October to 24 November.2018
Preview: 12 October 2018, 7 – 9 pm

GONZALO RUELAS | MURIEL MOST

Opening hours:

Tuesday - Friday 12 - 6 pm, Saturday 12 - 4 pm and by appointment.

Longer Opening Hours during Berlin Art Week 27 – 30 September 2018

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