

CARLOS AQUILINO, 2005-2010

The United States, China, Turkey, Italy, Greece, Hungary, and Spain... fifteen cities in these countries have enjoyed Carlos Aquilino's artworks over these last six years, where he has been invited to exhibit on twenty-five different occasions. And now, finally, this international exhibition – including some very recent paintings – arrives in Madrid.

Those of us who have followed his fruitful career, cannot but wonder at his capacity to create such variation in his works, so impressive in their statement and formal projection. Reasons for Carlos Aquilino's creative outbursts, may be the vital life-experiences gained in his journeys, and the intense need to express his memories and emotions in these works.

Each and every canvass is imbued with the objective and the imaginary, transformed by emotion into a new reality. Greek architectural structures with their temples and classical pillars, or white walls rising and falling from Mediterranean blue beaches under the burning sun break the rules of perspective and proportion to traverse virtual space and unfold onto the canvass with extraordinary strength.

In the exhibition hall the majestic and overwhelming power of Nature catches us by surprise: a window is opened that allows us escape the mundane without giving up the real; a return to the essential and the primordial. These are landscapes where the human is an element in symbiosis with climbing and sliding plants (which are here the true protagonists of colour and movement). They take us in with twisting greens and indigo that flutters in the skies, and a flaming red that sets fire to the yellow fields, propelling us into a legendary world of mythic proportions.

This ardent vitality switches subject in the following artistic stages: Before our eyes are whirlwinds of line and colour spiraling over the paper; pleasant characters, busts, legs, arms, faces of people – in a genuine *horror vacui* – interweaving with cups, doors, walls, mountains, trees, flowers, musical instruments, suns, clouds, cars. Every imaginable creature or object gushes out onto the surface, meandering over it and unable to escape. It is a living portrait of the great metropolis, with its hustle and bustle: the race to the working place; its fast and exciting night-life.

Enjoy reading the storyline of this painter's notebooks – an artist not afraid to swim against the tide, if this allows him to reach renewed and refreshing goals.

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