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BARRY MCGEE
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MORIS (ISRAEL MEZA MORENO)
OS GÊMEOS
SWOON
VHILS

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART SAN DIEGO
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VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN

A DIALOGUE WITH THE URBAN LANDSCAPE

Catalogo de:
Viva la Revolución: A Dialogue with the Urban Landscape ,
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, 2010

MORIS (ISRAEL MEZA MORENO)

Israel Meza Moreno, better known as Moris, has developed his artistic practice in relationship to the landscape of poverty in Mexico City, where he was born and raised. Using the vast and populous city as the material for his work, he is simultaneously inhabiting the roles of artist, ethnographer, and activist. He creates a complex pedigree for the materials he gathers from the street and then displays in gallery and museum settings. For example, in his series entitled *Hermoso Paisaje* (2007) Moris recreates in the gallery space makeshift shelters and furniture out of found materials—various kinds of garbage and cardboard—that constitute the urban landscape from which they emerge; he then returns these objects to the street, in the process raising questions about social currency, cultural values, and translation.

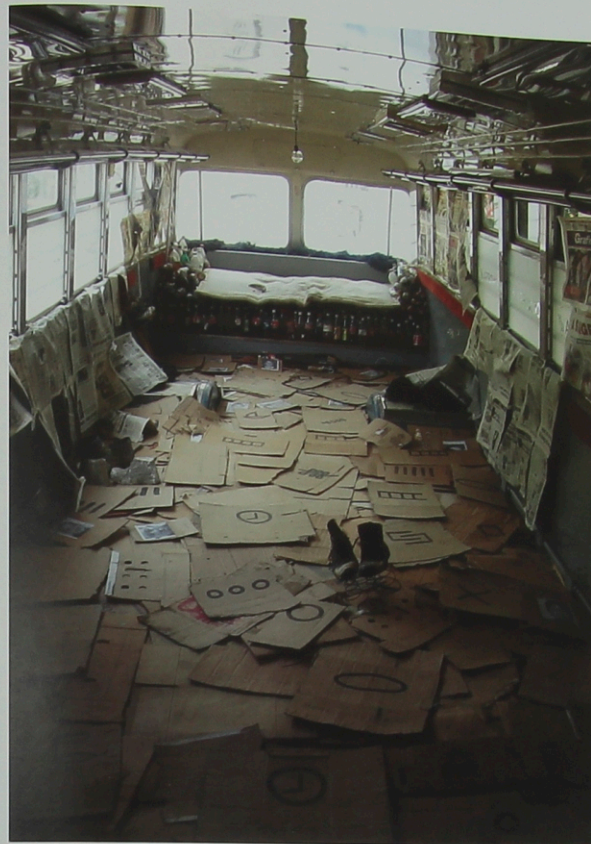
In a sense the artist is operating as a traditional portrait painter, but instead of portraying people, he creates portraits of a city. Rather than rendering smile lines that serve as evidence of a happy life, his portraits capture product wrappers that simultaneously portray the wastefulness of society but also its capacity for fun. In addition to this ethnographical tendency, his work is informed by important art historical movements and figures: for example, *Arte Povera*, whose influence can be seen in terms of Moris's visual aesthetic, as well as Joseph Beuys and his concept of "social sculpture" (which implicates the artist as a shaper of society as much as a figure that exposes things about it).

In the site-specific sculptural installation he has created for *Viva la Revolución*, Moris presents a partially collapsed tower built from cardboard and discarded materials. The piece references the utilitarian aspect of recycling in poor countries where inhabitants are forced to reuse materials due to a scarcity of means, unsustainable growth, and eroding infrastructure. Reclaimed larp are "drawn" on by erasing and washing away dirt and soot to portray images of an American-style suburban home, the Mexican flag, and a brick wall.



ABOVE TOP:
Moris, Hermoso Paisaje 4 (CP), 2007.
Mixed media.
Courtesy of the artist. Photo by Moris.

ABOVE BOTTOM:
Moris, Hermoso Paisaje 5 (El Baldío), 2008.
Mixed media.
Courtesy of La Colección Jumex. Photo by Moris.



ABOVE:
Moris, Nido de Malvivientes (Delinquent's Nest),
[Installation view of exhibition at Trolebús Galería, Mexico City], 2007.
Courtesy of the artist.

PAGES 94–95:
Moris, Hermoso Paisaje 7: golpes, pan duro y baños de agua fría, 2010.
Mixed media.
Courtesy of the artist. Photo by John Dale.



Aquí me he sentido
misericordia de la vida
el amor al cielo
orden con aturdo
las veces que pudo
do el grito recuerdo
la razón en mis acciones
los devotos sin esperanza
na acción chabando

Amor, agua y no estamos jugando

TAPA

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Moris (Israel Meza Moreno)

Born in Mexico; lives in Mexico
www.i20.com/artist.php?artist_id=121

Selected Solo or Two-Person Exhibitions/Installations
Via, (curated by Los Angeles Nomadic Division [LAND]),
The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2010
Un animal pierde la vida porque otro tiene hambre
(An animal dies because another is hungry),
Museo Experimental El Eco, Mexico City, 2008
Nido de malvivientes (Delinquent's nest), Trolebús Galería,
Mexico City, 2007
Todos tenemos sucios los zapatos (We all have dirty shoes),
Project Room, KBK Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City, 2007;
ARCOMadrid, Madrid, 2007

Selected Group Exhibitions/Installations
Efecto Drácula: Comunidades en transformación,
Museo Universitario del Chopo, Mexico City, 2010
PortugalArte10, Lisbon, 2010
Where Do We Go From Here? Selections from the Jumex Collection,
The Bass Museum, Miami Beach, 2009
Interstices: The Jumex Collection, Museum Moderner Kunst (MUMOK),
Vienna, 2008
Las líneas de la mano (The Lines of the Hand), Museo Universitario de
Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City, 2008

Os Gêmeos

Born in Brazil; live in Brazil
www.osgêmeos.com.br

Selected Solo Exhibitions/Installations
Nas Braços de um Anjo, Galleria Patricia Amocida,
Milan, 2009
Vertigem, Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, Rio de Janeiro
(and additional venues in Brazil), 2008
Too Far Too Close, Deitch Projects, New York, 2008
As Flores deste Jardim meus Avós Plantaram, Museum Het Domein,
Sittard, the Netherlands, 2007
Desenho, Galeria Fortes Vilaça, São Paulo, 2007

Selected Group Exhibitions/Installations
Nus (Nudes), Galeria Fortes Vilaça and Galeria Bergamin,
São Paulo, 2009
The Portrait Show, Durex Arte Contemporânea,
Rio de Janeiro, 2009

*When Lives Become Form: Contemporary Brazilian Art, 1960s to the
Present*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, 2008; Hirashima City
Museum of Contemporary Art, 2009; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts,
San Francisco, 2009
Imaginary Realities, Max Wigam Gallery, London, 2008
Wokin' Up Nights, de Pury and Luxembourg, Zurich, 2007

Swoon

Born in the United States; lives in the United States
www.korbitshtelter.org
www.swimmingcities.org
www.switchbacksea.org
www.missrockaway.org

Selected Solo and Collaborative Exhibitions/Installations
SWOON, Deitch Projects, New York, 2008
Feral (in collaboration with Monica Canlas), The Luggage Store,
San Francisco, 2008
Drawn Your Boots, New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, 2008
The Burning House (in collaboration with FAILE and David Ellis),
Museum Het Domein, Sittard, the Netherlands, 2007;
New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, 2007; Colette, Paris, 2007

Selected Group Exhibitions/Installations
The Way That We Rhyme: Women, Art, and Politics, Yerba Buena
Center for the Arts, San Francisco, 2008
Generations USA, PinchukArtCentre, Kiev, Ukraine, 2007
Graffiti, The Brooklyn Museum of Art, 2006

Vhils

Born in Portugal; lives in Portugal
www.alexandreiarlo.com

Selected Solo Exhibitions/Installations
Scratching the Surface, Lazarides Gallery, New York, 2009

Selected Group Exhibitions/Installations
Eurotrash, Lazarides Gallery, Los Angeles, 2010
Grippers, Lazarides Gallery, London, 2009
The Outsiders, Lazarides Gallery, New York, 2008
Cans Festival, London, 2008
Under Red Sky, Stolen Space Gallery, London, 2008

