



GALERÍA ESPACIO MÍNIMO

# BENE BERGADO

## *Señuelos*

From January 24th, 2015 to March 14th, 2015.

Opening: **Saturday, January 24th**, from 12 pm onwards.

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ESPACIO MÍNIMO Gallery presents the fifth solo exhibition of **BENE BERGADO** titled "*lures*": lures as signals and claims, temptations and warnings. This new exhibition deals about previous topics of her works as the signage of use and consumer objects, the cage as habitat, or sculpture as a container, but also with new elements into their repertoire such as eggs, trap nets or cages. With careful processes, forms and materials, and from a purely sculptural sensibility, his series investigate the complexities of contemporary experiences in relation to the forms of production and feeding. Formalizing a reflection of representation and reality in XXI century context, touching on topics such as awareness of limits, the prevalence of containers on content, resources and waste, the standardization of the disaster as result the success of the culture of development...

The works presented are in three series:

### I. *HABITATS* Series.

**BENE BERGADO** continuing the series '*habitats*', of his exhibition HOM@ of 2010, with the work entitled *trap 1*. Built from a cage-trap for large animals and elements of interior fittings for humans, mixed home with the trap, and understands architecture such a secretion of the inhabitant. This work confronts us with a space within space for which we are simultaneously hunter and hunted, human and animal, spectators and contemplated. As "still lifes" your lures are also traces of a dwelling: a plate, food debris and droppings, cast in bronze and all painted in oil.

### II. *EGG* series.

The play "*trash eggs*" consists of a set of different sizes eggs filled with not organic waste, suspended and caught in a net. Each of them are registered with an environmental management system code, the chemical formula of a food type-base, and generic formulas of the materials which the egg has been built. The inner eggs trash consists of all plastic packaging products that the artist has rejected in a month. The measurement of civilization, based on the amount of waste, also alludes to the danger of symbolic fraud linked to the culture of "sustainable capitalism" even to the standard legalization of destruction through environmental management systems (SGA: UNE, ISO, etc.) and the rating agencies. Eggs are not just trash deposits derived of plastics materials and expensive oil biodegradation, but also viable seeds of a new rebiogenesis.

The work entitled "*biotic bomb*" is based on an egg shape. This work recreates an 'Orsini bomb', icon of the social revolution of the late nineteenth. This bomb is a bronze container stuffing



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with "Nendos-dangos" -clay pellets mixed with seeds (white clover, beans, cayenne, etc.)-, planting system belonging to the Fukuoka method. The philosophy of this culture method based on reproducing the natural soil conditions as closely as possible, is based on not do, not intervene or force things.

### III. MAPS series.

The work "*Gaia leaves*" is an image of 120x200cm made through inkjet directly on *dibond* representing a map whose continents are cabbage's leaves chewed by snails. The change in tone transforms the leaves into fragments of skin where the bites, crushed or damaged areas appear as wounds, injured or bruised. It is as if by changing the color of the leaves it shows lesions that are hidden from our eyes. In this work the reference to the "Gaia hypothesis" shows the map as a vital indicator of the decline of our territory. It has been modified by the life, and therefore the resulting conditions are a consequence and responsibility of life that inhabits it.

**BENE BERGADO** (Salamanca, 1963), graduated in Fine Art at Universidad del País Vasco. In 1987 she was awarded the Artistic Creation Scholarship from Diputación Foral de Vizcaya and she was Professor at the Fine Art Department of the Universidad del País Vasco from 1987 to 1997. She currently live and works in Madrid. She has exhibited at international galleries and institutional spaces such as Sala Carlos III of the Universidad Pública de Navarra in Pamplona, the Palacio de Abrantes de Salamanca or BILBAO Arte in Bilbao, and has taken part in important collective shows such as Muestra de Arte Joven (1992) at Museo Español de Arte Contemporáneo de Madrid, Distancia Cero (1994) at Centro de Arte Santa Mónica de Barcelona, Gure Artea (1996) at Sala Rekalde in Bilbao, Procesos (1997) Festival Internacional de Lima, Perú, Como nos vemos. Imágenes y arquetipos femeninos (1998) Centro Cultural Tecla Sala, Hospitalet (Barcelona), Trans Sexual Express (1999) BILBAO Arte, Bilbao, PASION. Diseño español (2002), travelling exhibition in Spain and Germany, Imágenes de mujer en la plástica española del siglo XX (2003) Museo Pablo Serrano, Zaragoza, Indisciplinados (2003) MARCO. Museo de arte contemporáneo de Vigo, Vete a tu habitación (2003) Casa Encendida, Madrid, Contemporary Art. Castilla y León (2005) White Box, New York, Dibujando al revés (2006) Centro Cultural Montehermoso de Vitoria, Para todos los públicos (2006) Sala Rekalde, Bilbao, Existencias (2007) MUSAC. Museo de arte contemporáneo de Castilla y León, León, INCÓGNITAS. Cartografías del arte contemporáneo en Euskadi (2007) Museo Guggenheim, Bilbao, Supraficciones (2007) Fundación Caixa, Lleida, Esculturismo (2008) Sala de la Comunidad de Madrid, Alcalá 31, Madrid, *Poole!* (2012) Fundación JUMEX, México D.F.... Also, he participated on International Art Fairs as ARCO (Madrid), FRIEZE ART FAIR (Londres), ZonaMACO (México D.F.), CIGE (Beijing), SHcontemporary (Shanghai), ART BASEL MIAMI BEACH (Miami), ART CHICAGO (Chicago), ARTISSIMA (Turín), ART FORUM BERLIN (Berlín), ART BRUSSELS (Bruselas), THE GRAMERCY INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ART FAIR (New York, Los Angeles y Miami)... Her work is in the national collections of, amongst others, MUSAC (Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León) en León, el Museo ARTIUM de Vitoria... or international as Colección JUMEX de México D.F or Estrellita B. Brodsky Collection of New York.