



Gallery of the month

EL QUADERN ROBAT

THE IDEAL MUSEUM OF A GALLERIST

ANNA BELSA OPENED FOUR YEARS AGO IN A MODERNIST BUILDING IN THE HEART OF BARCELONA'S ENSANCHE, THIS EXHIBITION SPACE WHERE PRIVACY PREVAILS, LIKE THE HOUSE OF A COLLECTOR

Marie-Claire Uberquoi

Descubrir el Arte, nº 231, May 2018 – Marie-Claire Uberquoi

Just four years ago, Anna Belsa inaugurated the gallery El Quadern Robat, in the heart of Barcelona's Ensanche. The choice of a living place in the mezzanine floor of a modernist building is not a coincidence. When she decided to open his own gallery after being employed for twenty-six years in the galleries Joan Prats and Artgràfic, she preferred to dispense with the white and aseptic cube and opt for a more intimate space, as if it were a bit like a collector's house. "Experience has taught me that the works of art are appreciated in a different way depending on the context in which they are exhibited and I like to present them in a less impersonal environment, which in some way is familiar to the visitor," says the gallerist. Initially, El Quadern Robat was the name of a blog that AnnaBelsa started writing in 2012 to share her reflections on contemporary art, the world of collecting and on her relationship with the artists she has defended throughout her professional career.

Her work in Artgràfic gallery, where she was responsible for the selection of artists and the organization of the exhibitions, allowed her to acquire a solid experience that led her to create her own gallery, giving it the name of his blog, which she continues to maintain. The inaugural exhibition, entitled "Change of Scenery", brought together the works of painters, sculptors and photographers such as Alfons Borrell, Carmen Calvo, Chema Madoz, Evru, Fiona Morrison, Josep Guinovart, Josep Maria Riera i Aragó, Albert Ràfols Casamada and Joan Hernández Pijuan , among others; all of them creators with whom she had worked and whose works shaped his ideal museum in some way. A whole declaration of intentions in which the general lines of her gallery project were intuited, reflecting her sensitivity and her demanding gaze on the current creation. "I do not try to privilege any concrete current, I follow my own intuition without being influenced by the prevailing fashions," says Belsa. This first show

included some artists that she herself had discovered and that she continues to promote in her gallery, such as Jorge R. Pombo, Jordi Alcaraz and David Ymberton. Each exhibition is a

personal commitment, as shown by the poetic photographs of Oriol Jolonch, the subtle imaginary landscapes drawn on marble plates by the Finnish Elena Kervinen or the experimental works of Joan Furriols, creator in the sixties of nworks similar to those of Lucio Fontana . These artists practice different languages although their works have some elements in common: they usually have a high spiritual component, because of their links with literature or poetry, as in the case of David Ymberton, or because of their relationship with the history of art , as we can see in the current exhibition by Salvador Juanpere. This Catalan sculptor surprises the visitor with his original poetics arising from a synthesis between his artistic and theoretical references. An exhibition that seduces for its intellectual content and its aesthetic value. Two essential aspects that determine the programming of the gallery and characterize its philosophy.

Useful data

The Quadern Robot, Barcelona

Salvador Juanpere. D'après, selon, suivant (After, according, next) Until June 2, 2018