

# Daniel Berdala

*Camins invisibles / Invisible paths*



Rest in Sant Joan, 2022, oil on canvas, 73 x 100 cm (28.7 x 39.4 in)

March 17, 2022 – May 28, 2022

*On a dull, dark and soundless autumn day, when the clouds were heavy and low in the sky, I crossed, alone and on horseback, a singularly gloomy stretch of country; and at last, as the evening shadows drew near, I found myself in sight of the melancholy House of Usher.*

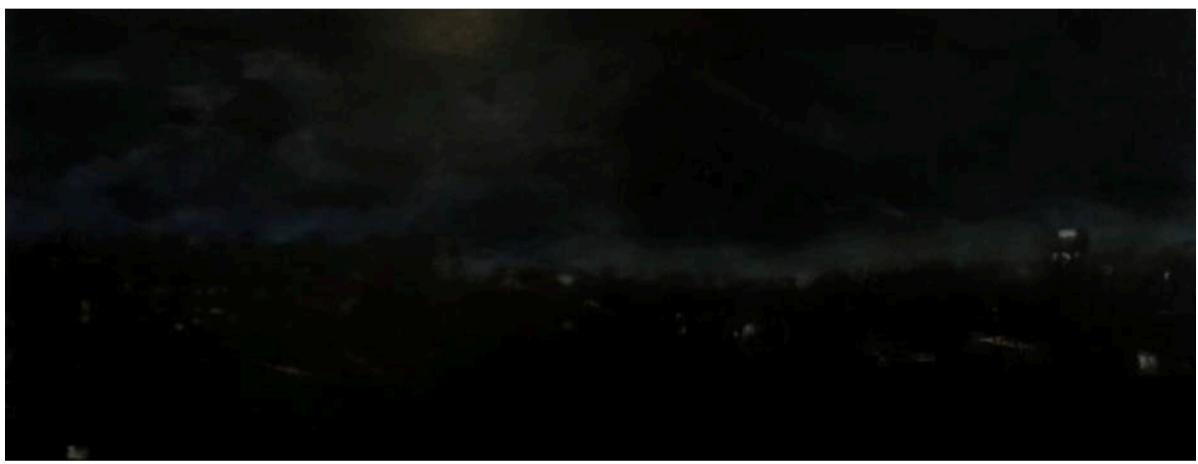
Thus begins "The Fall of the House of Usher" by Edgar Allan Poe. A few months ago I reread this narration and while I was doing it, some of the paintings by **Daniel Berdala** that I had recently seen came to mind.

**Berdala's** works arise from a purely romantic drive. His inspiration is emotional, and can be based on the discovery of a natural landscape or the desire to paint a state of mind. Poe said that literature should be an underground current below the surface, and **Berdala's** work travels the hidden paths of the subconscious. In Poe's narratives, the environment transforms with the mood of the character and viceversa. It is these invisible paths that run through the paintings that we present in this exhibition. Paths that, using the representation of the outside world, recreate the inner world and exalt the artist's feelings or subjectivity. This interest in psychological penetration through painting sometimes leads to the construction of allegories of the current moment. An example of this is the tightrope walker series: a person crosses an uncertain landscape on a tightrope, a clear allusion to uncertainty and insecurity. We can reach the end or fall off the cliff, but if we arrive, it will be by making balances and thanks to luck or the inspiration of the moment.



The long road, 2021, oil on canvas, 11.8 x 11.8 in

Throughout the history of art, artistic moments have shifted from sentiment to reason: from the Renaissance to the Baroque, from the Baroque to Classicism, from Classicism to Romanticism, and so on; even the trends that occurred throughout the 20th century opted for one way or another of facing the world. The work of **Daniel Berdala**, at a time dominated by conceptualism, prioritizes feelings and individuality. Perhaps it is nothing revolutionary (or yes) but we find it very comforting. Following the way of the romantics, **Berdala** moves away from the will to reproduce the state of things, to follow the invisible paths that lead to nature and viceversa. This does not mean that he ignores the environment, quite the opposite. As Adorno said, works of art must be the historiography of his time, the subconscious of history. It is precisely the environment and the circumstance (in the philosophical sense of the term) that provoke in our artist the need to "reconcile the irreconcilable" and he only achieves this by painting from the coordinates of his inner atlas.



Night silence in the Eixample, 2022, oil on canvas, 44,5 x 109 cm (17.5 x 42.9 in)

**Daniel Berdala** (Barcelona, 1968) has a diploma in painting from the Escola Massana and his work has been seen, among other places, in art galleries such as Quiosc Gallery (Trenc) and Alonso Vidal (Barcelona), and in institutions such as Sala Barradas (L'Hospitalet de Llobregat) The College of Journalists of Catalonia, Espai Fabra i Coats, Can Framis Museum of the Vila Casas Foundation (Barcelona) and Les Bernardes in Salt (Girona).

The exhibition will be open until May 28, 2022

For more information, contact the gallery: [info@elquadernrobot.com](mailto:info@elquadernrobot.com) – 93 368 36 72

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