

THE ARGENTINA INDEPENDENT

On Now: Geometría en Movimiento | Posted on 10 July 2013.

'Geometría en Movimiento' ('Geometry in Motion') brings together over 40 pieces by renowned Argentine modern artist, Manuel Espinosa, examining the historical and conceptual theories behind abstract and illusionary art.

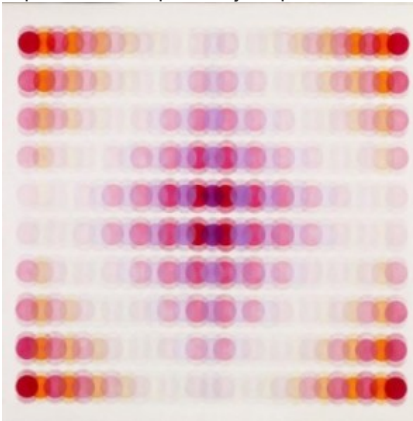


Geometry in Motion (photo courtesy of MACBA)

This latest exhibition at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Buenos Aires (MACBA) opens with an introduction to the discipline of geometric art, through a selection of striking Argentine works dating back to the 20th century. Early experimental pieces such as optical art exponent Antonio Asís' metal sculptures, are presented in conjunction with subtle oil on canvas paintings by Ary Brizzi. Ideas of viewer participation, the vast expanse of illusionary experimentation, and the importance of texture are all explored, fusing the fields of sculpture, painting and architecture. The exhibition examines how geometry and mathematics – throughout the annals of art history – have combined and blended with mysticism and poetry to create a subject with blurred boundaries.

The floors above and below the introductory level hold the exhibition's main draw; Manuel Espinosa. A forerunner in the field of geometric art, Espinosa was born in Buenos Aires in 1912, graduating from both the Escuela Nacional de Artes and the Escuela Superior de Bellas Artes. Espinosa co-founded the Arte Concreto-Invencción association after disquiet amongst a group of young Argentine artists led them to create a new visual language. From the 1950's to the 1980's, Espinosa honed his craft, leaving a legacy of work that is at once minimal, playful, and brave in its use of colour and space.

The most poignant and absorbing facet of this exhibition is perhaps the optical illusion dot sequence paintings, that, with a rigorous system of order and experimentation, challenge viewers notions of perception and awareness. With clarity and moderation, he carefully employs a tension between each colour – orange to pinks, reds to blues – that generates an impression of depth and juxtaposition.



Alongside his trademark paintings, several sculptures are featured including a section of the gallery encouraging audience participation – an idea that references Espinosa's affinity with sensitivity and communication, a product of his strong alliance with music and literature.

The likes of Damien Hirst and Yayoi Kusama are undoubtedly the innovators when it comes to modern 'dot art,' yet Espinosa's own brand of Pointillism incorporates a dynamic tension and overlaying quality that is missing from the aforementioned pioneers. His merging of conceptual rigour and optical illusion make it easy to see how he became a key figure in both the Argentine and illusionary art fields.

Engaging and challenging, the exhibition is an introduction to the often overlooked or generalised discipline of geometric art and to the work of Manuel Espinosa; one of Argentina's most passionate and experimental painters.

Geometría en Movimiento will be displayed at the MACBA until 28th July.

The exhibition is open from Monday to Fridays, 12-7pm and Saturdays and Sundays 11am-7.30pm. Entrance is \$20 with a discounted price of \$10 for

visitors on Wednesdays, students, teachers and the retired. Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Buenos Aires (MACBA), Av San Juan 328.