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SPAIN arts & culture participates in FotoWeekDC 2016 with the exhibit:

## 'A MYRIAD OF VOICES'



'Luca' from the series 'Igualito que su madre', 2004 © Photo by Germán Gómez

### WHEN

**EXHIBITIONS ON VIEW: November 11 - December 16, 2016**

Gallery hours: Thursday – Sunday, 12 pm to 6 pm  
Monday – Wednesday by appointment only.

### WHERE

**Former Residence of the Ambassadors of Spain**  
2801 16th Street Northwest, Washington, DC 20009

PIOVRA

*Telefónica*  
FUNDACIÓN

**PHOTOESPAÑA**

**LA FABRICA**

**FotoWeekDC**

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## SPAIN arts & culture participates in FotoWeekDC 2016 with the exhibit A MYRIAD OF VOICES

**Washington, D.C.-** The ninth annual FotoWeekDC Festival, the largest visual arts festival in Washington DC, is presented again this year in partnership with SPAIN arts & culture, the Spanish official cultural program across the United States.

The Former Residence of the Ambassadors of Spain is one of the venues of FotoWeekDC and it is hosting the exhibition *A Myriad of Voices*, showcasing a small sample of the work done by former *Revelation PHotoEspaña* award winners **David Jiménez, Isabel Flores, Paco Gómez, Lucía Arjona, the NOPHOTO group, Germán Gómez, Carlos Sanva, Carlos Irijalba and Aleix Plademunt.**

*The Revelation Award*, one of the most influential awards granted annually by *PHotoEspaña*, Madrid's international photography and visual arts festival, recognizes Spanish photographers under 35 for outstanding work the previous year. Since its inception in 1998, this award has contributed to the development of the chosen artists, many of whom have gone on to build successful careers achieving worldwide recognition.

*A Myriad of Voices* is curated by Oliva María Rubio, artistic director of the Contemporary Art Center La Fábrica, that organizes the competition.

A shared feature of the selected photographs is the author's intent to go beyond the work itself, expanding the vision and spectrum of the "merely photographic." The artists work in series, sometimes dedicating several years to one project. Although some photographers focus on capturing reality while others base themselves in fiction, each one helps us to reflect on the issues that affect our world today, such as: landscape manipulation, the degradation of the urban environment, the representation of territory, gender problems, memory, and identity.

Likewise we find that many of these authors tend to work on interdisciplinary themes. Some, such as Isabel Flores and Germán Gómez, explore several techniques and mediums while others utilize images in movement, actions and performances as in the case of Carlos Irijalba. The body of work presented in this exhibition reflects the incredible richness, diversity and creativity in modern photography.

### ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHERS

#### LUCÍA ARJONA

**Lucía Arjona** was born in Montilla (Cordoba, Spain) and lives and works between Madrid and Cordoba. She studied Media, Design and Photography in Cordoba, Manchester and Swansea, where she gained a Bachelor of Arts (with honours) in Photography in the Arts. Her personal work focuses on portrait photography emphasizing personal identities and has been shown in exhibitions in national and international Art Centres. Lucía has received different awards and mentions and her photography has been published for editorial and advertising purposes.

#### ISABEL FLORES

**Isabel Flores** (Santa Cruz de Tenerife, 1971), having completed a PhD in fine arts from the University of La Laguna (Tenerife, 2011), has taught at the Centre de l'Imatge i la Tecnologia Multimèdia in Terrassa, the Escola Illa in Sabadell, the photography academy GrisArt, and the Centre Pont del Dragó in Barcelona. She combines different disciplines, techniques, and languages in her work, blending classical processes with current technology, which leads to unpredictable positions and solutions. In her works, real creatures and landscapes refer us to dream-like situations that prompt a journey through more internal territories with the purpose of finding symbolic references with which to transform real environments into more hospitable landscapes.



The combination of procedures, disciplines, and visual languages allow her to move beyond traditional limits and to shape the imagined object while it moves toward its materialization. Her most recent exhibitions include *Paisajes del Aire* (*Air landscapes*, Sala Kursala of the University of Cádiz and XI photography Biennial of Tenerife, 2011) and her participation in the group exhibition *Zoología Fantástica* (*Fantastic Zoology*, Tenerife Espacio de las Artes, 2012), as well as in the Multiplied Art Fair in London (2012), the International Contemporary Engraving Festival of Bilbao (2012), and *jää! Photo* (Madrid, 2013). She won the Revelación Prize at PHotoEspaña 2000 and was awarded the Photography Prize Generación 2001 Premios y Becas de Arte Caja Madrid.

### **PACO GÓMEZ**

**Paco Gómez** (Madrid, 1971), a trained civil engineer, never practiced his profession. Since 1996 he has spent his time dealing with images and currently combines photography with the production of documentaries and the design and curatorship of exhibitions. For nine years he worked as film developer in Juan Manuel Castro Prieto's lab in Madrid, where he came in direct contact with the masters of Spanish photography. He has taken part in the creation of the projects *República no fotos* (*No-Photos Republic*), the editing of digital screenings PROYECTA, and the creation of the collective NOPHOTO, of which he is presently a member. His personal photography is marked by dreams, memories, literature and film. His photographic series question the boundaries of reality, combining the use of hidden messages with documentary research in order to build striking stories. Set within these lines are *Proyecto K* (*Project K*, 2003), a wild historic inquiry, halfway between reality and fiction, about various events in the life of Franz Kafka; or his most important project to date, *Los Modlin* (*The Modlins*, 2007), which recreates the life of a family of artists from some photographs found in the garbage. This work would further lead to the creation of a novel and a documentary which scooped a Goya prize in 2013. More recently, he has produced *La felicidad* (*Happiness*, 2012), in which he shows how Spain finally overcame the transition of its national football team. His photographs have been published in magazines such as *El País Semanal*, *Matador*, *Vanity Fair*, *Rolling Stone*, or *Siete Leguas*. He was present in PHotoEspaña (PHE) 2002 and 2003, took part in the Bratislava Photo Festival with *Proyecto K*, and in Fotonoviembre 2003 (Tenerife) with *Imágenes desclasificadas* (*Declassified images*). He has been the recipient of the Photography Prize injuve 2001 and Prize for Best New Photographer PHE.

### **GERMAN GÓMEZ**

**Germán Gómez** (Gijón, Asturias, en 1972) has had ample academic training, having attained an undergraduate degree, a master's degree, and a diploma of advanced studies in fine arts. His interest for the human being is palpable in his photographic work, comprised almost fully of portraits through which he explores different questions of identity. As his discourse has become more complex so has his technique, which has derived into the superposition of photographs combined with drawing. Among his most relevant projects feature his first work *Yo, tú, él, ella, nosotros, nosotras, vosotros, vosotras, ellos y ellas* (*I, you, he, she, we, y'all, they*, 1998-2001), a series of portraits of children and teenagers with special needs; *Igualito que su madre* (*Just like their mother*, 2003), about family relations; or *Compuestos* (*Composite*, 2004-2009), in which the artist first introduces collage as an instrument to, yet again, question the identity of the individual. His subsequent projects have adopted this same technique and have progressively acquired more complexity. In this sense, the following series stand out: *Del susurro al grito* (*From a whisper to a scream*, 2004-2011), *Dibujados* (*Drawn*, 2006), *Condenados* (*Convicted*, 2008), *En éxtasis* (*In ecstasy*, 2009), *De padres y de hijos* (*Of parents and of children*, 2010), and *Años 30* (*The 30s*, 2012), an autobiographical installation. Featured in fairs and festivals such as ARCO - Madrid 2007 and PHotoEspaña 2008 and 2009, his works have been on display in museums and galleries around the world, such as the Museum of Modern Art of Barranquilla (Colombia, 2010), the Fernando Pradilla Gallery Madrid and London, 2006 and 2012), and the Bridgette Mayer Gallery (Philadelphia, 2012). Throughout his career, he has been recognized with the injuve Prize 2001, the scholarship of the Royal Academy of Spain in Rome in 2007, and the Prize to the Best New Photographer at PHE 2008. His work is included in the collections of the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (Madrid), the Museum of Kentucky (USA), and the ministries of Foreign Affairs, among other institutions



### **CARLOS IRIJALBA**

**Carlos Irijalba** (Pamplona, 1979) finished the Pamplona School of Art and took a degree in Fine Arts at the University of the Basque Country, completing his studies at the Berlin Universität der Künste, 2004 and the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam, where he now works and lives. The common characteristic of his multidisciplinary projects is the analysis of the western way of life. His work analyzes the way in which western culture recreates an abstract medium that loses all relations except to itself. Spectacle has marked out the plane of the visible so it can be easily digested, transferring attention towards a series of pseudo-events. Irijalba works on projects, such as *TwilightT*, the recent *Unwilling Spectator*, and *High Tides* about relative experience of time and territory and the collective construction of the real. Notably among his exhibitions are *Outside Comes First* (Bilbao Arte Foundation, 2007), *Twilight* (Dina Mitrani Gallery, Miami, Florida, USA, 2009), *The Road not Taken* (Galerie Sherin Najjar, Berlin, 2011) and *Inercia* (Juan Silió Gallery, Santander, 2012), as well as his participation in *Rencontres Internationales Paris/Berlin/Madrid 2011*, at the premises of the Jeu de Paume, Paris. He received the Guggenheim Bilbao Photography Grant in 2003 and the Marcelino Botín Art Grant in 2007-2008. He also received the Purificación García photography first Prize and an Honorable Mention in *Generaciones 2009*; the Revelation Prize at *PHotoEspaña 2010*; and, in 2012, the Estampa Prize from the Community of Madrid for *Devices VII*.

### **DAVID JIMÉNEZ**

**David Jiménez** was born in Sevilla (Spain) in 1970 and currently lives and works in Madrid. He has created diverse personal works that have been displayed in books, exhibitions and audiovisual works throughout Spain and abroad. Noteworthy events in his professional career include winning the best upcoming photographer Prize at *PHotoEspaña 99* and the publication of five individual books, among them *Infinito* in 2000, which has been recognized as one of the most influential photobooks of the last decade in Spain, and the recently released *Versus* in 2014. He has exhibited his work in Rotterdam, Arlés, Toulouse, Torino, Athens, Seoul, Bogotá and other cities, including several places in Spain. His images are present in the catalogue of numerous public and private collections.

### **ALEIX PLADEMUNT**

**Alex Plademunt** (Girona, 1980) dropped out of his degree in technical engineering to become a photographer, graduating in 2004 from the Centre de la Imatge i la Tecnologia Multimèdia of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya in Barcelona. In 2011 he founded, together with Roger Gaus and Juan Diego Valera, the publishing house *Ca l'Isidret Edicions*, which was created exclusively to publish the work of the three photographers. His photographs are produced with a plate camera on a tripod. His careful framings explain his conception of photography as a process of observation and realization. Through the landscape he questions the relation between mankind and the environment around it, presenting in his work images that speak about people and their social condition, as can be seen in the project *DubaiLand* (2008). His travels have allowed him to develop more introspective thoughts, such as the one proposed in his latest project, *Almost There* (2013). In recent years he has exhibited *DubaiLand* in the CaixaForum Barcelona and Madrid (2010), at the Galerie Olivier Waltman (Paris, 2011), *the Valle Orti* Gallery (Valencia, 2011), and at the Centro Difusor de Arte in Lisbon (2012). Also in 2012, he exhibited *We Are Here* in the photography workshop of Roberto Mata (Caracas). He has taken part in the Sección Off of *PHotoEspaña 2006* (Arte y Naturaleza Gallery) and in the 2007, 2008, 2011 and 2012 editions of ARCO Madrid, among other festivals and international fairs. He has profited from a number of aids for the realization of his projects, such as the Injuve Photography Prize (2005), the Ángel photography scholarship (2007), the FotoPres scholarship (2009), the Agita scholarship (2009), the Propuestas scholarship (2010), or the Purificación García Prize (2010).

### **CARLOS SANVA**

**Carlos Sanva** (Madrid, 1978) made his debut while he was working for the newspaper *El Mundo* and contributing to domestic and international magazines. His work moved away from editorial themes, opening the way for the development of personal projects. He is a founding member of the group NPHOTO, together with **Matías Costa**, **Marta Soul**, **Juan Valbuena**, **Juan**



**Santos**, and **Juan Millás**, among others. In his own words, his photographic series explores altered mechanics of regular appearance. These are the lines that guide his incommensurable project *Summa* (2006), in which he tried to depict in a mosaic of images the totality of a group of individuals; his exploration of historical truth through the documentary fable *El Pardo* (2006); his portrait projects *49 CC* (2007) and *Aproximaciones superficiales a una topología del grupo* (Superficial approach to a group topology, 2008; or the essay on violence and its relation to heritage and learning *Superhombres* (Supermen, 2010), for which he used pit bulls, are some of his works. His subsequent projects, *Sugarfree* and *Una docena de bigos* (A dozen figs) have been conceived as interventions. In the first of them, the photographer reflects about the reduced reach of individual vindication against the power of public institutions; and in the second he explores the boundary between the public and private spheres. Equally of note is his participation in the projects Madrid *Inmigrante* commissioned by the Comunidad de Madrid and Magnum Photos. He won the Revelación Prize at PHotoEspaña in 2009, and in the following edition (2010), he exhibited *Superhombres* at the José Robles Gallery. The Municipal Museum of Hubei (China), Atrium of Vitoria- Gasteiz, and the collections of the Comunidad de Madrid, Purificación García, and Roommate Hotels all own some of his works.

### **NOPHOTO**

NOPHOTO is a photography collective born in Madrid in 2005 with the aim of making viable unconventional solo and group projects. It is characterized by its open stance on contents, an interdisciplinary tendency in its forms, the use of multiple formats for the dissemination of its projects—such as the web and digital screenings—and the personal implication in the process of conceptualization and production. NOPHOTO is comprised by photographers: **Jonás Bel**, **Paco Gómez**, **Jorquera**, **Carlos Luján**, **Juan Millás**, **Eduardo Nave**, **Eva Sala**, **Juan Santos**, **Carlos Sanva**, **Rafael Trapiello** y **Juan Valbuena**. The collective works of the group include *Aquí y ahora* (*Here and now*, 2008-09), a depiction of contemporary Spanish tropes presented in the Hubei Museum of Art of Wuhan (China) in 2008; *Vegaviana. Memoria Colonizada* (*Vegaviana. Colonized memory*, 2011), a document of the tales of a town developed in Extremadura in the 1950s; *El último verano* (*The last summer*, 2012), a look back at the harsh and disheartening summer of 2012, flooded in government cuts; *This is Spain* (2013), a project that documents the cultural, economic and political aspects of our country in order to subsequently produce a guide of the current situation; *Retando a la suerte* (*Depicting luck*, 2013). The group has produced projects for corporations and institutions such as the Patronato de Turismo de Madrid or the Museum Thyssen-Bornemisza. Especially noteworthy is the project *Muta Matadero* (2006), produced for the Área de las Artes (Arts Department) of the Ayuntamiento de Madrid. The exhibition was featured in PHotoEspaña 2007, a festival that a year earlier had rewarded the collective with the Premio Revelación.

### **RELATED EVENTS**

#### **SCREENING – DIARY OF A JOURNEY: A TRIBUTE TO INGE MORATH**

- **On Saturday, November 12 at 4 pm.**
- **On Sunday, November 20 at 3 pm.**
- Documentary directed by Javier Barbero and Jordi A. Puigventós, 2016, 26 minutes.
- In English with Spanish and English subtitles. Watch trailer.

In 2014, 8 contemporary female photographers, all recipients of the Magnum Inge Morath award, embarked on a photographic road trip retracing Morath's journey along the Danube and producing new work. Morath began photographing in 1951, and assisted Henri Cartier Bresson as a researcher in 1953-54. She became one of the first female members of Magnum Photos in 1955. The motivation of the project is to honor the legacy of this pioneer by retracing her footsteps.

With their cameras, children, laptops, a film crew, a small support team and a truck, the 8 photographers began their adventure. The caravan travelled 2,800 km from the river's source in the Black Forest in Germany to the Black Sea, and through 8 of the 10 countries where the river flows. If this adventure were only about documenting the Danube River, this project would not have





become the multidimensional phenomena that mark it as one of the most talked about collaborations in photography today. The photographers are Olivia Arthur (GB), Lurdes Basoli (ES), Kathryn Cooke (US/GB/IT), Jessica Immock (US), Claudia Guardarrama (MX), Claire Martin (AU), Emily Schiffer (US) and Ami Vitale (US). This documentary is part of the exhibition *Gazes on the Danube: In the Steps of Inge Morath*, organized and produced by Fundación Telefónica and Piovra.

### A CONVERSATION WITH CARLOS IRIJALBA

- **On Saturday, November 19, at 11:30 am.**
- **Carlos Irijalba** (Pamplona, 1979) is a former resident at the Rijksakademie of Amsterdam (2013 / 2014), and graduated from the Basque Country University and UDK Berlin in 2004. He has received the *Revelation PhotoEspaña Award*, the *Guggenheim Bilbao Photography Grant* in 2003 and the *Marcelino Botín Art Grant* in 2007/08. Irijalba has exhibited at international Art Museums, including the CCCB Barcelona, MUMA Melbourne or LMCC New York. His work analyzes the way in which western culture recreates an abstract medium that loses all relations except to itself. Spectacle has marked out the plane of the visible so it can be easily digested, transferring attention towards a series of pseudo-events. Irijalba works in projects as *Twilight* or the recent *Unwilling Spectator* and *Hight Tides* in that direction between relative experience of time and territory and the collective construction of the real.

### About La Fábrica

La Fábrica Contemporary Art Center was started in Madrid in 1995 to develop private, contemporary cultural initiatives that display the value of society, PhotoEspaña being one of their most successful projects. The photography, visual arts, literature, film, music, and performing arts are the disciplines they feature in their projects, which also address the areas of intellect, society, sustainable development, trends, tourism, and lifestyles. <http://www.lafabrica.com/en/>

### About FotoWeekDC

FotoWeekDC, the largest visual arts festival in Washington, D.C., features photography exhibitions, special events and high-profile FotoTalks. FotoWeekDC produces more than 150 world-class events and features more than 50 partners, ranging from museums and galleries to embassies and cultural centers. Its mission is to provide exposure for photographers and to make diverse, high-quality photography accessible to audiences through the exhibition of inspiring and provocative images, dynamic programming, and collaborations with the local and international community. The annual Festival in November continues to be FotoDC's largest project with over 40,000 attendees each year. FotoWeekDC 2016 will take place from November 11-20, 2016. More info: <http://www.fotowebdc.org/>

### About SPAIN arts & culture

SPAIN arts & culture features the most cutting-edge works of international renowned Spanish artists in fields such as design, urban culture, architecture, visual arts, film, performing arts, literature and music. A series of exhibitions, conferences, showcases, and performances take place every year at the most prestigious American cultural institutions bringing a taste of all the creativity, history, and talent of Spanish artists to the American public. This program is organized by the Embassy of Spain's Cultural Office in Washington, D.C. and its network of General Consulates and Cervantes Institutes in the United States together with the Spain-USA Foundation. The Spanish-American cultural cooperation aims to create multiple links between the creative sectors of both countries and promote modern Spain's fertile spectrum of contemporary artistic expression.

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**#Hi-Res Images & Press Materials:** <https://www.flickr.com/photos/spainartsculture/albums/72157674881339560>

**# Luis Posada**, Deputy Director for Exhibitions at La Fábrica, and photographer **Carlos Irijalba** will be available for interviews.

For additional information and materials, please contact: [berta.corredor@spainculture.us](mailto:berta.corredor@spainculture.us)