

SANDRA HIGGINS

Independent Art Advisor and Curator

Press Release

CARLOS JACANAMIJOY

Recent Works

Sandra Higgins Fine Art
Chelsea, London

3 December 2014 - 16 January 2015

Private view:

(in the presence of the artist)

Wednesday 3 December
6:30 - 8:30pm



'Chilakuan', sculpture in bronze, 2013

Sandra Higgins is delighted to present 'Recent Works', shown for the first time in London, by the acclaimed Colombian artist Carlos Jacanamijoy. This show will bring together paintings, sculpture, serigraphs and drawings from the artist's studio in Bogota.

Over the last 20 years, the "Maestro Jaca" (Master Jaca), as he is known in Colombia, has steadily built a strong reputation based on his abstract paintings, which depict landscapes inspired by the Colombian tropical rainforest where he grew up. The works in this exhibition will also explore the artist's range of prints, drawings and sculpture. Inherent in each of these mediums is a surreal and oneiric quality largely informed by the rites and spiritual beliefs of the Inga community, the indigenous ethnic group Jacanimijoy belongs to. They express the way in which a modern-day Inga envisions the mysterious interactions of the natural world with the spiritual powers of the indigenous world. His works, thus, beautifully connect ancient traditions with contemporary sensibilities.

Jacanamijoy explores the specific questions of landscape and memory with vibrant colours and a shamanic view of nature, using native symbols to express a personal universe. His paintings constitute a large pictorial vocabulary that create a 'reading' experience that brings out the sensuality of his colours. This use of native symbols is also reflected in his sculpture and prints, for example Chilakuan (illustrated), a Quechua word from

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his native language, symbolises a seed pod used in Inga ceremonies and in 'Jacas' hands transformed into a 'toy' or collectable contemporary object of beauty. The gestural marks in his prints suggest an autobiographical journey through the flora and fauna of his native land.

The complexity of 'Jaca's' inner world is such that he has spoken of his need to 'shamanise' his work as an artist. This stance is, no doubt, indebted to the artist's father, who was an Inga shaman. 'Jaca' himself is a shaman of his tribe in Santiago, Putumayo, and carries on this tradition so that all of his works are imbued with a symbolism transmitted by him throughout his life.

Note: The artist will be present for the reception so it will be possible for guests to gain a fuller insight into his creative process directly from 'Jaca' himself.

Fact Sheet

Artist: Carlos Jacanamijoy

Exhibition Title: Recent Works

Exhibition Dates: 3 December 2014 - 16 January 2015

Private view: Wednesday 3 December 2014, 6.30 - 8.30 pm

Location: Sandra Higgins Fine Art, 46 Harcourt Terrace, Flat 3, London, SW10 9JR

Opening Hours: By appointment only

For all enquiries, high resolution images and further information contact sandra@sandrahiggins.com or phone 07721 741107

CARLOS JACANAMIJOY

1964 Born in Santiago, Colombia **1983-84** BA Fine Arts, Universidad de La Sabana, Bogotá, Colombia **1984-85** BA Fine Arts Universidad de Nariño, Pasto, Colombia **1986-90** MFA Fine Arts, Universidad Nacional de Colombia **1989-90** BA Philosophy, Universidad de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia **1999** Commemorated with the "Orden de la Democracia" cross, given by Representatives of the Congress of Colombia.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

1994 *Paintings*, Museo de Arte Moderno La Tertulia, Cali, Colombia **1995** *Entre luz y sombra*, *Paintings*, Galería de Artes Contemporáneas Jenni Vilá, Cali, Colombia **1996** *Kuichi Sacha*, *Paintings*, Galería del Museo de Arte Moderno, Bogotá, Colombia **1999** *Caminos de Agua*, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, China **2002** *Paintings*, Museo de la Nación, Lima, Perú / *Paintings*, Colombian Embassy in Washington D. C., USA **2003** *Paintings*, Fabien Frys Gallery, Marbella, Spain / *Como Contar un Sueño*, United Nations Palace, Geneva, Switzerland **2005** León Tovar Gallery, New York, USA **2007** *Off The Map*, Smithsonian Institution, New York, USA **2008** *La otra Mirada*, Latin American & Caribbean Studies,

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Gallery at Stony Brook University, New York, USA 2012 Caldas Art Museum, Manizales, Colombia
2013 *Magia, memoria, color*, Major retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art of Bogotá,
Colombia, Sandra Higgins Fine Art, London, 2014.

Selected Group Exhibitions

1983 *Natalicio del Libertador*, Universidad de La Sabana, Bogotá, Colombia 1987 *Dibujo cuatro pretextos*. Facultad de Artes, Universidad Nacional, Bogotá, Colombia 1990 *Arte joven itinerante*. Área Cultural Banco de la República, Villavicencio, Colombia 1995 *XXII Salón Nacional de Arte Joven*, Museo de Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia 1996 *XXXVII Salón Nacional de Artistas*, Corferias, Bogotá, Colombia / Galería La Cometa, New York, USA 1997 *Contemporary Colombian Art at the Contemporary Art Museum of Tel Aviv*, Israel 1999 *Arte en centímetros*, Galería El Museo, Bogotá, Colombia 2000 *Palm Beach Art Fair*, Galería El Museo, Florida, USA 2003 *90s Desplazamientos*, Museo de Arte Moderno Bogota, Colombia 2004 *Paintings*, Palazzo Santa Croce, Instituto Italo Latinoamericano, Rome, Italy / *The Spring of Mambo*, Museum of Modern Art, Miami, USA 2005 *Arteaméricas Art Fair*, León Tovar Gallery Miami, USA 2007 *PINTA Latin American Art Fair*, New York, USA 2008 *Leon Tovar Gallery*, Art Miami, USA / *Leon Tovar Gallery*, ArtBo, Bogota, Colombia 2010 *Vantage point: The contemporary Native Art Collection*, Smithsonian, Washington, DC 2011 *Despertares*, Galería Léopold Sedan Senghor, Bucaramanga, Colombia.

Public Collections

National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian, Washington D.C USA / Luis Ángel Arango Library, Banco de la República, Bogotá, Colombia / MamBo, Museum of Modern Art of Bogotá, Colombia / Museum of Modern Art La Tertulia, Cali, Colombia / Art Museum of Pereira, Colombia / Museo de Arte de la Universidad Nacional, Bogotá, Colombia / Planetario Distrital de Bogotá, Colombia.

Notes to editors

Sandra Higgins is an Independent Art Advisor and Curator based in London. She collaborates with international artists working in a wide range of media. She exhibits their work at a gallery space within her home in Chelsea. She also organises pop-up exhibitions at other venues and acts as a guest curator for specific artists and other galleries. She has been giving specialist tours at Tate Modern since its opening in 2000 and continues to do so. She is a founding member of the Association of Women Art Dealers, London.

Higgins' most recent project is Discover Art Now, a platform to showcase Latin American art, a long-held interest since she first worked with art patron Delfina Entrecanales CBE to establish her renowned Delfina

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Studios Trust foundation in 1987. After two years of ongoing research and travels around Latin America, which she documents in her Discover Art Now blog, Higgins is now using her expertise to promote Latin American art within the London scene, currently focusing on Colombian and Brazilian artists. The booming interest in Latin American art, accompanied by a proliferation of new galleries, art fairs, biennials and museum shows, reflects Latin America's thriving artistic scene, as well as a buoyant market with a great potential for growth and investment.

Note: A slideshow of Sandra Higgins visiting 'Jaca' in Santiago, last August, can be seen on her blog Discover Art Now (www.discoverartnow.co.uk).



'Dibujo', serigraph/edition 50, 38 x 56 cm, 2007



'Tres Encuentros', oil on canvas, 95 x 100 cm, 2014

Note: The gallery will be closed for the Christmas Holiday, from 22nd December - 6th January