

Rosenfeld Porcini

Press Release

Enrique Brinkmann
The Poetics of Silence

24 June –10 September 2012

Private View: 23 June, 6.30-
8.30pm
37 Rathbone Street
London W1T 1NZ



Proximos Tiempos Acuaticos II, 2006, mixed media on steel mesh, 96 x 146 cm

Rosenfeld Porcini is delighted to present a retrospective of over 40 works by the Spanish artist Enrique Brinkmann. The exhibition, stretching back over fifty years, represents a unique, restless yet coherent, journey from 1960 to the present day.

The first works date back to 1960, produced under Franco's shadow. Their monochromatic palette is redolent of the unease and oppression that permeated Spanish society in those years. Although clearly figurative, they display a freedom of line which, over the course of twenty-five years, evolves into pure abstraction.

The 90s sees Brinkmann freeing himself from any traces of figuratism left in his work and by 1998 his stated desire "to find a way of creating air between the wall and the pictorial plane" results in his artistic breakthrough when he begins using a tightly strung metal mesh distanced from the wall as his new painterly surface. The adoption of this new medium proved to be a watershed in his oeuvre, "what I painted previously was based on a placing of points and lines around the space of the canvas; now I am able to achieve it in real space, in the air." Although never subsequently leaving it, he has continued to experiment with possibilities which it opened up for him.

Works from the late 90s to 2002 display intense colour allied to the transparency the surface gives him. From 2003 a need for silence and purity of line becomes predominant. Even when titles are obviously political (*Irak* series, 2004), it is now an extremely personal interpretation where the dark areas punctuate line and the mesh's transparency. Compared to the direct images of the 60s, there is now an exclusively emotional response to the subject. In the following series *Segmentos*, small squares, each one conceived like an individual painting, are laid over a large part of the mesh's surface to resemble a grid or musical score. The continuing dialogue between emptiness and fullness, shifts again when the artist begins covering the mesh with a thick layer of paint, turning his attention to the density the mesh enables him to obtain, so much so that the work takes on an almost sculptural texture.

Brinkmann is still as focused and artistically 'restless' as he was as a young man. It is this endless curiosity and passion tied to a unique poetic voice which will ensure that this wonderful body of work will leave its mark and the resonance arising from it will long endure.

Gallery address: 37 Rathbone Street, London W1T 1NZ
Telephone No: +44 [0]20 7637 1133
Website: www.rosenfeldporcini.com
Nearest tube: Oxford circus, Tottenham Court Road and Goodge street
Opening Times: 11am-7pm Tuesday to Saturday

NOTES TO EDITORS:

rosenfeld porcini gallery

Founded in June 2011 by Ian Rosenfeld and Dario Porcini, directors of Italy's Galleria Napoli Nobilissima, Rosenfeld Porcini occupies a prime location in the heart of the dynamic gallery district of London's Fitzrovia. With 3,000 square feet of gallery space, Rosenfeld Porcini has a strong international outlook committed to showing contemporary artists from around the world with an innovative exhibitions programme. Old Master and Modern shows will occasionally be presented, either monographic or themed, within the context of the contemporary space, exploring a firm curatorial belief in the continuity that underlies the story of art.

Ian Rosenfeld is a photographer, film-maker and gallery director. He has had one man shows at the National Theatre, the Barbican Centre, the Pinacoteca in Bologna, the Palazzo dei Diamanti in Ferrara and the French Cultural Institute in Florence, amongst others. Two volumes of his work have been published, *Bologna: Time, Space and Photography* (Nuova Alpha) and *Ferrara: Echoes of Silence* (Alchima Art Publishing). Two of Rosenfeld's films have premiered at the Venice Film Festival, *Echoes of Time* in 1993 and *Doors of Memory* in 1998. He joined Italy's Galleria Napoli Nobilissima in 2007 with responsibility for the contemporary art exhibitions programme. Contact: ian@rosenfeldporcini.com

Dario Porcini has been a director of the Galleria Napoli Nobilissima in Naples for over two decades. Originally founded by his father, the gallery takes its names from the art publication launched by the philosopher Benedetto Croce at the close of the 19th century. He obtained his degree in Fine Art from the University of Naples with a thesis on Neapolitan painting in the first half of the 17th century. Porcini is an expert on Old Master paintings and sculpture. Contact: dario@rosenfeldporcini.com

Emily Dolan studied as a practicing artist for several years in a variety of institutions and has been working in a commercial capacity for the past 5 years at the Fine Art Society in the Contemporary Sales team. She has been an advisor to the Museum of Everything and last year assisted renowned American artist Leonardo Drew on his travelling American museum show. She has also participated in many national and international art fairs. Dolan studied for a BA in Fine Art from Bristol UWE College of Art after a Foundation course at Falmouth College of Art, with further studies at Florence Academy of Art and The Art Academy in London. Contact: emily@rosenfeldporcini.com