

Juan Miguel Palacios

Wounded

Private View: Thursday 22nd June 6-9pm

Exhibition runs: 23rd June – 22nd July 2017



Lazarides is pleased to present 'Wounded', Juan Miguel Palacios' first solo London exhibition.

"I have always been fascinated by the human face and it's gestural language because of its communicative character and beauty. A face can transmit so many different emotions with only a small modification of the facial features and this is what I want to explore through the featured works.

A common denominator of the big cities we live in, such as New York or London, is the racial and cultural diversity. Dynamic cities, full of life that attract and welcome millions of different people. Fascinating cities, offering all kinds of comforts, luxuries, and pleasures which at the same time can be extremely individualist and solitary where very few people manage to realise their dreams. An amalgam of apparently happy and blissful faces that after a closer inspection reveal an expression of fatigue and pain, as a result of day-to-day experiences.

I identify all these life experiences as 'wounds' and it is these 'wounds' that inevitably leave an imprint or a mark on our faces. This was the starting point for the works in this series and the exhibition is an investigation of these different emotions through gestures.

In a metaphorical way, I use the ambiguous face of a woman, in which pleasure and pain are mixed in a single gesture, generating a feeling of uncertainty.

I have tried to investigate further by looking for new ways of representation, I use a drywall and transparent vinyl, replacing the traditional canvas. I strike and burn the drywall until it is broken, as a synonym of all those experiences that mark us and configure our expressions. The transparent vinyl is a synonym of identity, where I represent different facial gestures and because of their transparent nature, allow us to see their interior."

- Juan Miguel Palacios

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About Juan Miguel Palacios

Juan Miguel Palacios is classically trained, specialising in drawing, however, he takes a lot of inspiration from contemporary arts and artists.

Having moved to New York in 2012, Palacios wanted to explore new ways of communicating other than through painting alone. Palacios has developed a unique technique which involves layering a series of paintings on top of each other to create stunning three-dimensional pieces. Usually Palacios works in a series to explain the emotions of his subject matter.

Juan Miguel Palacios continually explores the complex range of human emotions with a free, powerful and always modern technique. He is driven by the search for new forms of expression and fuses sociopolitical themes with personal experiences and historical antecedents of art, creating a unique and modern environment on the most outstanding and controversial issues of contemporary society.

Canvas, vinyl, aluminium and drywall surfaces are where Juan Miguel Palacios presents his work.



About Lazarides

Lazarides is one of the foremost galleries in contemporary art, directed by Steve Lazarides and representing over 40 artists from across the world.

Lazarides works with a motley mix of artists, each with their own story to tell, who refuse to be categorised and who share Steve's grit and resolve for showmanship. From spray painting to taxidermy, electrical installations to wall pastings, Lazarides' artists and their shows are renowned for their defiant staging and contemporary art world rule-breaking.

The gallery has represented a number of long-standing artists since their artistic in-fancies, including 3D, Jonathan Yeo, JR and Vhils, while equally nurturing young and undiscovered talent traced from Brazil, Israel, France, China, the USA and the UK.

Lazarides Rathbone in Fitzrovia is Lazarides' flagship gallery and is set in a four storey Georgian townhouse. Recent shows have included JR: Crossing, 2015, Oliver Jeffers: Measuring Land and Sea, 2015, and Zevs: The Big Oil Splash, 2016. To mark its tenth anniversary in 2016, the gallery presented a large-scale group show Still Here: A Decade of Lazarides, featuring work from over 30 artists including Banksy, Jonathan Yeo, JR, Nina Pandolfo and Miaz Brothers.

2016 saw the opening of the Banksy Print Gallery at Mondrian London on the South Bank. The new permanent art space presents a dedicated platform for secondary market editions and will provide access to the world of art collecting and to key pieces that gained Banksy notoriety and exposure.

Lazarides is widely recognised for its dramatic off site, off kilter events and theatrical group shows in major cities like New York, Los Angeles, and in London's Old Vic Tunnels.