

LOS VENDAVAL



Rocío Arévalo Vargas + Pablo Alonso de la Sierra born 1978 / 1970

a couple creating interventions and participations in public places such as cities and schools, working with people of all ages and social backgrounds

Their work, based on ceramics, is interesting and refreshing, and although in Spain there are a number of notable examples of ceramics being treated for its plastic possibilities, as in the case of the work of Gaudi, Picasso, Miro or more recently the work of Miquel Barcelo in the Cathedral of Palma Mallorca, ceramics has very little presence in contemporary art today.



It is always a risk working with a material so close to us as clay, and which has so many uses in our everyday life, it is difficult to transform its basic identity.

Vendaval do not try to achieve this rather they aim to emphasis its characteristics .



Their work is multidisiplinary with interventions and transformations of space and spaces. They use repetition of modular pieces, though these are hand made rather than factory made so each piece within the whole is different.

Using this premise they explore concepts of the Individual and the collective and start an intellectual game with the observer.

Photography and video is used to document these interventions.



Many of their projects are participatory, and question the elitist image of contemporary creation and revindicate art at all social levels, for this reason they try to include new audiences and work with different sectors of the population.

Vendaval has a clear vocation and aim, their creation is very intuitative and open to whatever unexpected influences that occur during the creative process, and although their starting point is ceramics they also use whatever materials that come to hand to explore the ideas that interest them.

I have chosen a few examples of their work to illustrate their ideas

FILLING Space



This title unites a series of projects that explore spatial occupation using modular pieces, the interaction is between the volume and their pieces, the relation is between the spectator and the transformed space.

It was a work that was carried out in three different spatial environments.

1 a contemporary exhibition space, a space clean white and cold



2 a typical Mediterranean pine wood landscape



3 An archeological museum which has a collection of Roman and Phoenician ceramics some 3000 yrs old.

They have taken these ideas further and applied them to everyday public places

Filling Grazalema



The Works were produced with children and retired people in the workshop of a rural school, these ceramic pieces were then installed in site specific points throughout the village. Beneath the title Open your Mind / Open your heart, they invited passers by to think about the concepts of tolerance and respect,



The same interventions were also carried out in Berlin (Germany) and Venice (Italy)

FOR SALE



The theme for this series was the property speculation and employed an ironic and satirical language.



The golden varnishes and the sophisticated wrappings of the pieces were used to create an atmosphere of desire, luxury, but emphasis the falseness that we find ourselves immersed in, seduced and manipulated by a consumerist society.



Following these spatial interventions, where they establish relationships with architectural elements that make up the urban landscape, the last Works created in September 2012 in the NIV gallery international arts residency in New Delhi unify these concepts in an installation. These Original structures, idyllic and utopian are used as models of habitable spaces for imaginary individuals.

There is currently an exhibiton of this work in the Cervantes Institute in New Dehli.along with another Spanish Artist from our gallery Montse Caraballo