

ENGLISH**GALLERIA CONTINUA****SAN GIMIGNANO BEIJING LES MOULINS HABANA**46, rue de la Ferté-Gaucher, 77169 Boissy-le-Châtel, France
Tel. +33 (0)1 64 20 39 50 / lemoulin@galleriacontinua.fr / www.galleriacontinua.com**JOSÉ YAQUE****GRAVEDAD****06/06/2015 – 27/09/2015**Opening Saturday 6 June 2015, 16h30 – Midnight
Wednesdays to Sundays, from Noon to 7pm

Galleria Continua is pleased to present at the Moulins the work of Cuban artist José Yaque. One of the new generation of Cuban artists, Yaque studied at the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) in Havana, and at the Academia Profesional de Artes Plásticas Carlos Enríquez in Manzanillo, Cuba. The works shown at the Moulin de Boissy, all made in 2015, are part of a stage of his practice begun in 2014. The exhibition, entitled *GRAVEDAD*, is his first in France, and includes a number of new works.

According to José Yaque, the intimate relationship between creation and life allows him to create links between art, individuals, and nature. His work tells a vision: that of a meeting between Man and the Universe. His paintings are like windows opened on to vibrant landscapes, whose materials, encrusted in the canvas, take on new forms. In one sense, the force and the sensuality of the technique the artist uses in his paintings resemble Action Painting, but José Yaque explores a new formal dialectic in the face of the blank canvas. Using his hands directly to

produce his medium and to paint, he seems to be digging up some mineral material in order to find a new source, of life, creating a sensible transposition on to the canvas through a methodic, almost ritualistic process. The colours blend into one another, create discontinuous lines, and form a magma that transforms itself again when the artist wraps it all in plastic film, which he then removes once the material has dried. The result is an eroded painting, as the plastic has worked on the canvas like the wind on the earth.

José Yaque's works appear at first like abstract propositions. But their titles are figurative, descriptive: they are names of minerals, the components of rocks. The artist is attempting through his painting to explore a sort of subterranean world, one susceptible of 'talking to' his medium. The pigments, of mineral origin, which he uses for primer (itself crossed with varnish) play a central role in José Yaque's desire to create a painting that would be connected to its fundamental origins. The title of the exhibition, *GRAVEDAD*, also evokes the notion of essence, associating the work of painting with gravitation, the constitutive force balancing the universe.

José Yaque was born in Manzanillo, Cuba, in 1985. He lives and works in Havana, where he participated in numerous exhibitions between 2004 and 2009. In 2010, he contributed to Portugal's first Contemporary Art Biennale, and exhibited at Wasps Artists' Studio in Glasgow, in Scotland. The following year, he exhibited in Madrid, then

again in Glasgow in 2012, at the International Visual Arts Festival. The same year, in residency in Warsaw in Poland, he had his first solo exhibition outside Cuba at the Zacheta National Gallery of Art. This exhibition, entitled *Wisła*, brought together a series of large format drawings and a video centred on the Vistula. In 2013, he participated in the group exhibition *Senderos de Bosque* at Emerson College, Forest Row, in England.