

## DIEGO SANTOMÉ

Opening 10 FEB 2009  
10 FEB – 21 MAR 2009

Pilar Parra & Romero is pleased to present "Lo que se esconde detrás de las cosas" (What is hidden behind things) by Spanish artist Diego Santomé

Diego Santomé's work is not casual it is profoundly related to his personal context. Diego is a multidisciplinary artist who bases his work in incorporating his vital experience into an artistic language, he is in the constant search of a link between art and society and questions the displacement of aesthetic enjoyment into the social interaction field. Throughout his trajectory all of these elements have turned into a common point when reading his artworks.

For this project Diego has worked through minimal stories, simple objects, small actions and almost insignificant acts with an aesthetic associated to minimal and conceptual art. The general idea is based in the current socio-political context but in a subtle and quiet way. He does it through basic and simple ideas but with great social background which is what instructs the approach of the show and determines its aesthetics.

With the use of everyday materials, with minimum and simple shapes and with a poetic and symbolic language Diego exposes in a direct way ideas winking to classic art history. The techniques and the choices of the materials are also part of the message the artist wants to communicate: film, engraving, drawing and sculptures in concrete or porcelain are among his proposals.

The piece which gives the title to the show *Lo que se esconde detrás de las cosas* (What is hidden behind things), a relief carved with chisel and hammer in the wall emulates the classical sculpting technique that removes the excess and reveals the artwork. Through film, a discipline identified for working with something so intangible such as time, Diego displays the film *Castillos de Arena* (Sandcastles) which directly alludes to the ephemeral nature of things or ultimately to life itself. With the sculpture *Losas de Hormigom* (Concrete Slab) he symbolizes the heavy load we impose ourselves throughout our existence.

Diego Santomé lives and works in Nigrán (Pontevedra). He has participated recently in international and national group shows, as well as in film festivals. His most recent works include the Telaviv videoart Biennale 2004, the same year he had a solo show in ARTIUM (Contemporary art Museum in Vitoria). His most recent shows include *Take to Spain, Take to Portugal* in the Netherland Institut Woor Mediakunts in Amsterdam, 2005; *MARCO* (Contemporary art Museum in Vigo), the Pontevedra Biennale in 2006; *MACUF* (Contemporary art Museum Union Fenosa) in La Coruña in 2007.