

The Underworld

The *Underworld* exhibition features the works by two artists symptomatic of the energy from the new generation contemporary latin American art scene: Silvana Pestana from Peru and Pablo Smidt from Argentina.

This unexpected collation of these both different works find here a meaningful and artistically stimulating dynamic; each work bringing a new perspective to the other.

Despite the diversity of the singular approaches of Silvana Pestana and Pablo Smidt, both artists have in common a research that tends towards the notion of the other side of things, the backstage, the invisible beyond the visible, which resonates with real-world allusions.

Through this variation of shapes, the troubling and organic sculptures by Silvana Pestana are like perfectly balanced by the ironic formalist and crumpled ones by Pablo Smidt, creating an acid atmosphere. They both investigate the interstices between the seen objects, that tell more than the simple visible.

Pablo Smidt's minimalist sculptures are a playful take on the otherwise serious tropes of modernist pop sculpture. A revised sign of british and American from 50s culture that went back viral after *Sex in the City*.

Oversized cupcake wrappers or A4 folded paper cast in fibreglass mounted to the wall take us back to the original impulse of sculpture, as well as to our own memory taken from the popular culture.

Silvana Pestana's on her side works deals globally with the memory of the underground world of global world of remaining abused and oppressed and especially young people to work illegally and women who are constrained to prostitution, a known significant but invisible traffic that remains an omerta and in the shadows.

These works by both artists are taking us to the underworld of our civilization with all its contradictions. What is going on between these both proposal shows how art has the capacity to raise awareness and change this current state of things. Like a journey in the changing and underlying world and references, *The Underworld* tells the original story behind the official story.

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