

WE DID IT/IT'S TRUE

BRUNO PACHECO

24 JANUARY – 24 FEBRUARY

For his second show at the gallery, Bruno Pacheco presents an assemble of works under the title *We Did It/It's True*. The starting point for this exhibition is *The Painting Lesson* (2007), a painting that depicts a group of people holding up mandala like 'paintings'. Instead of focusing on individual features, this group portrait prioritises the situation, it's narrative, as well as bringing to the fore its shapes and patterns. Pacheco is interested in revealing the constructed nature of painting, the way in which images are layered, seeking to create a presence of painted figures rather than an image of people.

Pacheco came across the image for *The Painting Lesson* during his continuous collecting and categorisation of snapshots, that document some kind of accomplishment or group activity such as; climbing a mountain, joining in a circle dance, or being part of a nudist group. A holiday snapshot is perhaps not that far removed from a souvenir or a trophy, it becomes something you bring home from a trip – it proves that you achieved something, you were there.

Trophy, a sculpture consisting of old paint buckets and studio ashtrays could be viewed as a self- portrait or a generic portrait of an artist, whilst working with ready-mades and shapes familiar from the course of art history. By extension, these remnants also indicate the fragility of the position of the artist, a position where acknowledgement and the desire for self-fulfilment can perhaps be equated to the general human impulse to leave traces of actions and activities.

Also on show is a series of works on paper that have an immediacy and urge not present in the painting. The papers operate in tandem with the collection of found images providing a way to expand on the subject matter and to create a critical position in relation to representation. The presence of brush marks creates a shift in the relationship to the snapshot – sometimes close, sometimes further removed. The lack of detail in the figures may point to a lack of individuality in a group or the opposite, that the achievement of a task is possible only by restricting the individual.

Bruno Pacheco lives and works in London. He is currently included in *Portugal Agora - à propos des lieux d'origine*, Mudam, Luxembourg until 7 April 2008. Recent shows include *All Together* (solo), Culturegest, Lisbon, *Perpetuum Mobile*, Galeria MaisterraValbuena Madrid and *New Company – Nouveaux Portraits de Groupe*, Nosbaum + Reding, Luxembourg.

**GALLERY OPEN
WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY
12 – 6 PM**

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