

BRUNO PACHECO

EXHIBITION OPEN 12 MAY – 18 JUNE 2006
PRIVATE VIEW: FRIDAY 12 MAY, 6.30 – 8.30PM

HOLLYBUSH GARDENS is pleased to present a solo exhibition by Bruno Pacheco.

For his first solo exhibition at Hollybush Gardens, Bruno Pacheco has made a new set of paintings. These works have developed through an ongoing interest in people and how different forms of behaviour and in fact cultural acts can only manifest themselves through group action. The attitude that groups of people carry with them is demonstrated here through the wearing of uniforms in *Girl Shape* and *Boy Shape* and as much through the discarded clothes in *Au Naturelle*.

The ideological import of the work functions in tension with Pacheco's interest in representation—in his case rendering enough information to make the subject understood, but holding back the individual markers that make us identify personalities within a group context. Rather the 'sitters' become generic and typecast by the meaning that their stance and clothes carry.

In *Girl Shape* and *Boy Shape* a group of cheerleaders and a group of choir boys are posed in a manner reminiscent of the 'group portrait' of modern times. This is also reinforced by their uniforms, which signify an ideological take on the development of the individual for the good of the future. Seen together one becomes aware that the 'shape' created by the block of boys and girls is in reverse. This reversal becomes an abstraction that reveals the accidental morphing of the groups into these shapes—an external reality that has impinged itself by some kind of accident. This accident has become the means through which Pacheco can invest the images with a relationship between the formal elements and through a simplification of form that allows the subject to escape the burden of individual expression.

In *Au Naturelle*, a group of naked adults are posing close to the edge of water with a dog. At first glance the relaxed manner of these adults appear free from social constraint. On further inspection however something in their naked mass seems upheld by belief—presenting an allegory of politics from a certain era.

Bruno Pacheco lives and works in London. Recent exhibitions include: Gallery Quadro Azul, Porto (2006); *New Contemporaries*, London (2005); *Densidade Relativa*, Centre of Modern Art of the Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon (2005); *Must I Paint you a Picture?* Haunch of Venison, London (2004); *Sigma*, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art of La Spezia, Italy (2004).

GALLERY OPEN 12 – 6 PM
THURSDAY – SUNDAY
OR BY APPOINTMENT

HOLLYBUSH GARDENS
UNIT 2, BJ HOUSE
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE
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