

Vanguardia y arte internacional IV

Press Note

Leandro Navarro Gallery presents a new exhibition titled “Avant-garde and international art”, dedicated to some of the most important masters of European and South American modern art.

The oldest works displayed are from the 1930's. We would like to point out *Nature morte, verre et compotiers aux fruits* from Pablo Picasso. This still nature painted in 1938 is definitely one of the highlights of the exhibition. The work becomes even more special next to *Spherical triangle*, lead and wire sculpture which dates from the same year as the Picasso. The dialogue between the works has a captivating effect as it creates a link between them and the Spanish pavilion at the International Expo of Paris in 1937, space where Picasso's *Guernica* and Calder's *Mercury Fountain* were exhibited for the first time.

In this Parisian context, the visual presentation continues with works of other Spanish artists who developed their artistic career in the French capital such as Julio González, Juan Gris, Francisco Bores y Baltasar Lobo.

The Bauhaus movement is represented by an oil on canvas and a drawing of Oskar Schlemmer as well as a paper of Wassily Kandinsky dated on 1939. Concerning Surrealism and Dadá we focus on Jean Arp and his wooden relief “*Formes se prêtant à l'interprétation*”. This masterpiece is a clear expression of the principles and ideas born in the Cabaret Voltaire, the birthplace of Dadaism. The search of random and spontaneous sequences and compositions works as a reaction to western rationalism. Meanwhile, two drawings of Joan Miró show a very relevant theme developed by the artist: constellations and organic shapes.

Regarding South American avant-garde, we include two panel paintings, one canvas and several works on paper of Joaquín Torres-García, artist who played a main role in this context due to his contribution to the movement of Constructive Universalism. Wifredo Lam could not be missed out in this chapter, reason why we show his works from the seventies. In both cases, we find many elements in their art linked to the European avant-garde movements; however they stay truthful and connected to their land in many ways.

Finally, we have the honour to present some works from our local avant-garde, generated in the outskirts of Madrid and led by Benjamin Palencia.