

Exhibition: **Construir, habitar, pensar. Perspectivas
del arte y la arquitectura contemporánea
IVAM Institut Valencià d'Art Modern
13th May 2008 – 6th July 2008**

Organised by: **Institut Valencià d'Art Modern**

Curated by: **Fernando Castro Flórez**

Collaborator:



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The IVAM presents the exhibition *Construir, habitar, pensar. Perspectivas del arte y la arquitectura contemporánea* (Building, Dwelling, Thinking. Perspectives of Contemporary Art and Architecture), curated by the art critic Fernando Castro, which will remain in the museum until 6th July. The exhibition, which takes its title from a famous text by Martin Heidegger, proposes an examination of the relationships between contemporary art and architecture by means of 79 pieces: 42 works by contemporary Spanish and Latin American artists (models, photographs,

installations, videos) and 37 architectonic projects by architecture studios from both continents.

The catalogue of the exhibition reproduces the works displayed and includes texts by the director of the IVAM, Consuelo Císcar, the president of Fundación Amela, José Vidal-Beneyto, Fernando Samaniego, José Pérez de Lama, José Ballesteros and Fernando Castro Flórez, curator of the exhibition.

The thinking and building practice that addresses the problem of dwelling in a world that, although it is ideologically globalised, reveals many inequalities, goes further than the culture of facades and the vertigo of the spectacle. We need to learn again how to live in the midst of complexity without resorting to stereotyping solutions or a complacent neo-decorative trend. This gathering of artists with multiple languages and architects with innovative ideas may allow us to glimpse the fragments of our life in common.

The visual artists who comprise the exhibition *Construir, habitar y pensar* have proposed a series of works (installations and photographs, basically) that construct and deconstruct social reality to show the urgency in addressing references that reflect contemporary thought. Many metaphors succeed each other in the ideas suggested, all with the intention of constructing a future by looking at the present, analysing it, thinking it through and dwelling in it. They are works that document the aesthetic of a precarious, low-budget architecture, which uses mostly recycled materials; works that reflect the transformations of the city and the appearance of new undefined spaces and spontaneous sites, usually on the outskirts of the metropolis.

The other line that complements the exhibition is the work of architects that have drawn up development projects of all sorts and kinds. In this diversity of ideas that believe in forming part of a natural environment, they come closer to the more metropolitan trends that stand out for their futuristic character and their verticality. However, they all have implicit reflections that insinuate and advise the improvement of spaces and ambits in order to achieve sustainable inhabitability, a creative intention to be grateful for, because it leads to the emotional stability of the individual in society.