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ERNESTO BALLESTEROS

Cinco Dibujos

7 september > 12 october 2013

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Exhibition from 7 september to 12 october 2013

How many lines has Albrecht Dürer done to draw his famous hare?

Ernesto Ballesteros starts his work in order to answer several questions : Can we reduce the earth circumference to an art space ? How many stars are present in a specific sky area? What do we see around a closed light source ? How many brush strokes are there in some paintings ? Or pencil strokes in some drawings ?

Since 2006 he elaborates marthon drawings. His works production time depends on how that at least two months are necessary. The act of drawing becomes more important than the performance itself. the most of the attention lies in the fact of tinkering about how the lines will be completed, and what the result of thousands of features will be. With several assistants help, drawings become reality thanks to the energy employed by each artist. Pen pressure is decisive. In some drawings it appears that the color was sprinkled on the paper and in other cases that the pencil almost tear the paper. In some, the color is balanced, and others, however, the choreography of their achievement is perceived.

It seems Ernesto Ballesteros chose the longer way, when we know that such a large color area could be obtained more easily through painting for example.

Do countless number of line saturate the planes to the point of their disappearance in the uniform color ?

To find an approximate answer, Ernesto Ballesteros calculated the average speed at which the strokes are done. This speed is generally 1,6 kilometers per hour. With his assistants he writes down the working time on a paper. Then, when the work is done, he multiplies the time spent by this number to obtain the full lines length applied to the drawings.

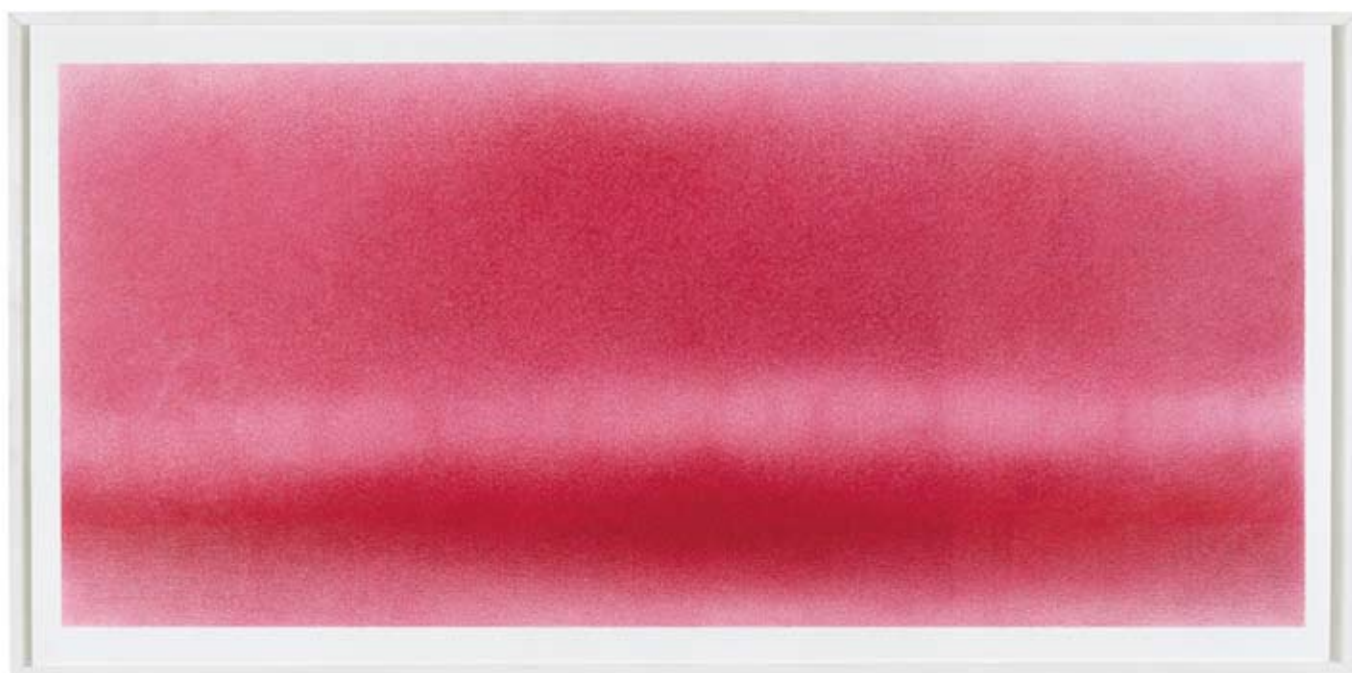
The artist shares this information with the spectator because he chooses to use this figure as titles for his drawings. In order to highlight that interest goes further than abstract color, Ernesto Ballesteros makes a connection with abstract drawings and purely traditional misty landscapes using strictly all of the lines to achieve them.



80,24 km de líneas aplicadas a un paisaje, 2005/2006

Crayon sur papier

90 cm ø



187 km de líneas aplicadas a un paisaje, 2005/2006

Pencil on paper

100 x 210 cm



817,2 km de líneas aplicadas a un paisaje, 2005/2006

Pencil on paper

130 x 220 cm



226,82 km de líneas aplicadas a un paisaje, 2005/2006

Crayon sur papier

130 cm ø