

press announcement**Fernando García Correa** and **Agustín González – *Conexión Mexicana***

08.06.2018–28.07.2018

For the second time now Michael Sturm Gallery is presenting works by Mexican artist **Fernando García Correa**. He decided to work in abstraction early on, when he was still studying in Mexico City and Paris. His works follow the tradition of non-figurative art and the reflection of its potentials. Even though Correa's works are structured in series, he does not see them as final entities, describing his work rather as cyclical, as a continuum. Linkages result from the artistic process, by pausing, stepping back, and building a distance between the work and the self in order to generate an openness, which can be experienced in the variety of his works. Relations exist between the works of one series and between different series, by mixing up elements, materials, compositions, which the artists takes up again. This is also reflected in the techniques used, for example collage. In his new series *Gambetas Y Concesiones* for example he used forms of acrylic paint, which come to being on the painting palette. Dried in a specific manner, he can later apply these organic forms onto his works on paper, which oscillate between drawing and painting. The relation between base and material is evened out throughout the artistic process, setting forth an ever-evolving network.

**Agustín González** represents a younger generation of Mexican artists, for whom the distinction between abstraction and figuration has become obsolete. González merges both articulations in his pastose paintings, which follow the tradition of figurative, magic-mythical Mexican painting. Figurative dream images are confronted with geometrical colour fields, showing us in a distinct manner the possibilities of this very vivid painting style. There is a pulsation in his works due to the tension between materiality and composition, between very detailed works and mere reduction. González follows very personal visions in his works. At the same time he usually deals with thoughts by writers. In his last series his work revolves around the understanding of utopia by Eduardo Galeano: *"Utopia is in the horizon. I go two steps closer, and it goes two steps further. I walk ten steps and the horizon moves ten steps away. As much as i walk, i will never reach it. Then, what is the use of utopia? For this: to keep on walking."* (Las palabras andantes, 1993). The smaller paintings in the corridor and the skylight exhibition room show expressions of these thoughts, dreamy landscapes and figures in front of a darkened background. In his newest works Gonzalez introduces the motif of the tree. The Montezuma cypress called *Ahuehete* has a strong meaning in Mexican culture. Its name can be translated as >the old man drinks<. For Gonzalez this meaning in addition to autobiographic elements and more general associations like roots, descent and growth, is a fertile moment, which he traces in his works.

**Fernando García Correa** (Mexico City, \*1958) studied painting and sculpture at La Esmeralda university in Mexico City (1978-80) and then in Paris, where he graduated with a drawing diploma with honours from the École des Beaux-Arts (1980-83). His works was awarded several times, i.e. by the Pollock-Krasner Foundation in 2010 or in 2015 by the Mexican state scholarship granted by the Sistema Nacional de Creadores. It is part of numerous private and public collection, such as the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Carrillo Gil Mexico and the Museo de Arte Abstracto Manuel Felguerez, Zacatecas. Fernando García Correa lives and works in Mexico City.

**Agustín González** (Mexico City, \*1978) also studied at La Esmeralda university in Mexico City (2001-2006). He won several prizes, i.e. three times the FONCA award for emerging artists and in 2013 he was awarded with the price by Zona Maco and the Tequila donation. His works take part in a number of esteemed collections such as JUMEX, PAMM Pérez Museum Miami, British Museum and the graphic collection of the Staatsgalerie Stuttgart. The exhibition *Conexión Mexicana* is his first show at Gallery Michael Sturm. Agustín González lives and works in Santiago de Chile.

The opening of the two exhibitions takes place on Friday the 8th of June, 7 pm.

The artists are present. For more information please visit [www.galerie-sturm.de](http://www.galerie-sturm.de).