

PRESS RELEASE

ENGLISH

**GINO RUBERT**  
***Irma lentamente***

Opening: Thursday 17 September, 8 pm  
17 September – 24 October, 2009  
Tuesdays to Fridays, 10:30 am to 2 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm  
Saturdays, 11 am to 2 pm and 5 pm to 8:30 pm

**Galeria SENDA opens the season 2009-2010 with a new exhibition of the Catalan artist GINO RUBERT (Mexico, 1969). After the success of his fronts for the trilogy *Millennium* by Stieg Larsson, he presents his newest series *Irma lentamente* in his sixth solo show in the gallery.**

The work of Gino Rubert consists of representing experiences and emotions to which one gains access from the animated and armoured frame of the sentimental relations: the "new woman", the "new man", his functions, malfunctions, conflicts and rhetorics. But, more specifically, it might be said that his work revolves around the image of the Woman, who in this exhibition assumes a leading role herself.

In these pieces we can appreciate a major calm, certain pacification in the confrontation between man and woman inhabiting his previous series. Here, Rubert presents to us a more intimate portrait of the woman, who appears in a more absorbed attitude, mainly alone, to be straight opposite to the spectator. She is no longer the perverse or aggressive woman who tyrannizes and dominates on the male genre. These are more austere, silent scenes, less obscurely disturbing maybe, but as mysterious and suggestive as always, in which the female figure exhibits the ambiguous mixture of sensuality and fragility, sexuality and innocence to which Rubert has got us used to.

As a novelty, the artist shows for the first time works on paper that stand out for their size but, especially, for their technique, and represent a new course in his production. In contrast to previous drawings in watercolor, of smaller size and of sketched character, these show a more complex technique that, as the works on canvas, combines the collage of photos and diverse materials like the natural hair, plastics or brilliants with watercolor and oil painting. Thus, these drawings acquire a pictorial quality, which can make them even more worrying than the canvases themselves.

A special attention deserves the use of natural hair, which is the common and most innovative element in this series, as if Rubert intended to create a "poetic of the hair" to accentuate the feminine condition of his characters. His interest in it is not only for its formal value but in particular for its symbolic value: the hair has been always associated with the power, the femininity and the vitality, but also with the memory, death, and vampires..

Once again, Rubert puts on view his personal pictorial universe, which masterly combines a formal beauty that seduces the gaze and a thematic ambience that invites to the reflection, and confirms him like one of the most original representatives of the moment of the figurative painting in Spain.

**Gino Rubert** studied Fine arts in Parsons School of Design of New York. In 1993 he gained the award to the young painting of the Room Parés and received a scholarship for one year in the Academy of Spain in Rome. His work has been exhibited in numerous galleries, museums and cultural centers: Akioshiday Museum (Japan), Museum Queen Sophia (MNCARS), Künstlerhaus Bethanien (Berlin), CCCB of Barcelona, Museu de l'Empordà, Figueres. His work is included in important public and private collections, both national and foreign. Recently, his paintings were selected to illustrate the three fronts of the edition in Spanish of the trilogy *Millennium* of the Swedish writer Stieg Larsson. He lives and works in Barcelona.