

La casa empática

Pabellón de Uruguay en la 58ª Bienal de Venecia
I Giardini de Venecia, mayo – noviembre 2019

Yamandú Canosa

artista

Patricia Bentancur – David Armengol

curadores

Alejandro Denes

comisario

The Empathic House at the Uruguayan Pavilion, 58° Venice Biennial.

The Empathic House is a discursive and dramatic synthesis that embraces the visual poetry of Yamandú Canosa. The title chosen by the artist provides two initial incentives that connect his professional career to his biography. In the first place, a symbolic allusion to the house or home blurred and reinterpreted as a result of migratory movements, traffic, longing and mestizo affiliation. Secondly, the notion of empathy, addressed here as the ideal relationship with the other, a relationship that is necessary to define our identity within the cultural and racial complexities shaping the contemporary world. Hence *The Empathic House* alludes to the instability of the global social and political reality from a position of complicity and diversity. Canosa's statement is an invitation to solve an enigma full of crossed meanings. Wittgenstein believed that the limits of our world are the limits of our own language, and in these immersive installations Canosa offers us a narrative landscape constructed and inhabited by language and by the cognitive and emotional experience of the gaze. The installation strikes up a dialogue with the proposal made by the general curator Ralph Rugoff, *May You Live in Interesting Times*, a statement that speaks of the uncertainty, the crisis and the turmoil in which we live. The paintings, drawings, photographs and mural works in *The Empathic House* are arranged as a 'landscape-territory' of the world, an inclusive and empathic 'total landscape'. Concepts such as territory, border, miscegenation, belonging, instability and difference expand starting from the poetics of the artist's keen gaze, critical and essential. In this landscape of the world, the horizon articulates the iconography of the four walls of the gallery – the *South Wall*, the *East Wall*, the *North Wall* and the *West Wall* – that place the Uruguayan Pavilion on the map of I Giardini. *The Empathic House* is entered from the South. The total landscape is completed by the intervention on the façade and by the starry sky installed in the ceiling of the pavilion and its reflection on the floor. The horizon suggested by Yamandú Canosa is our common link and exemplifies the beauty of our equality and our difference. *The Empathic House* is the house of broken borders.

Patricia Bentancur and David Armengol, curators.

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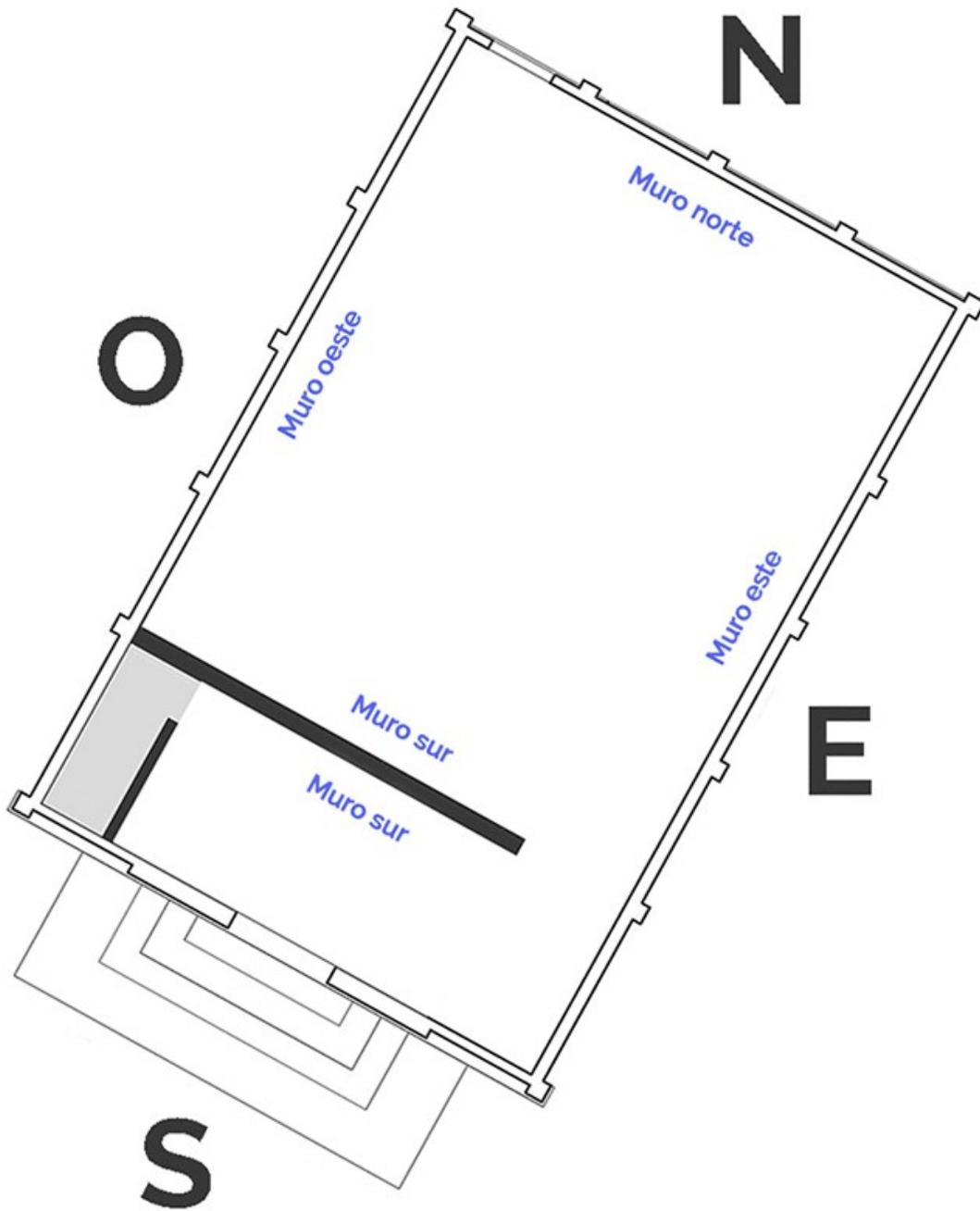
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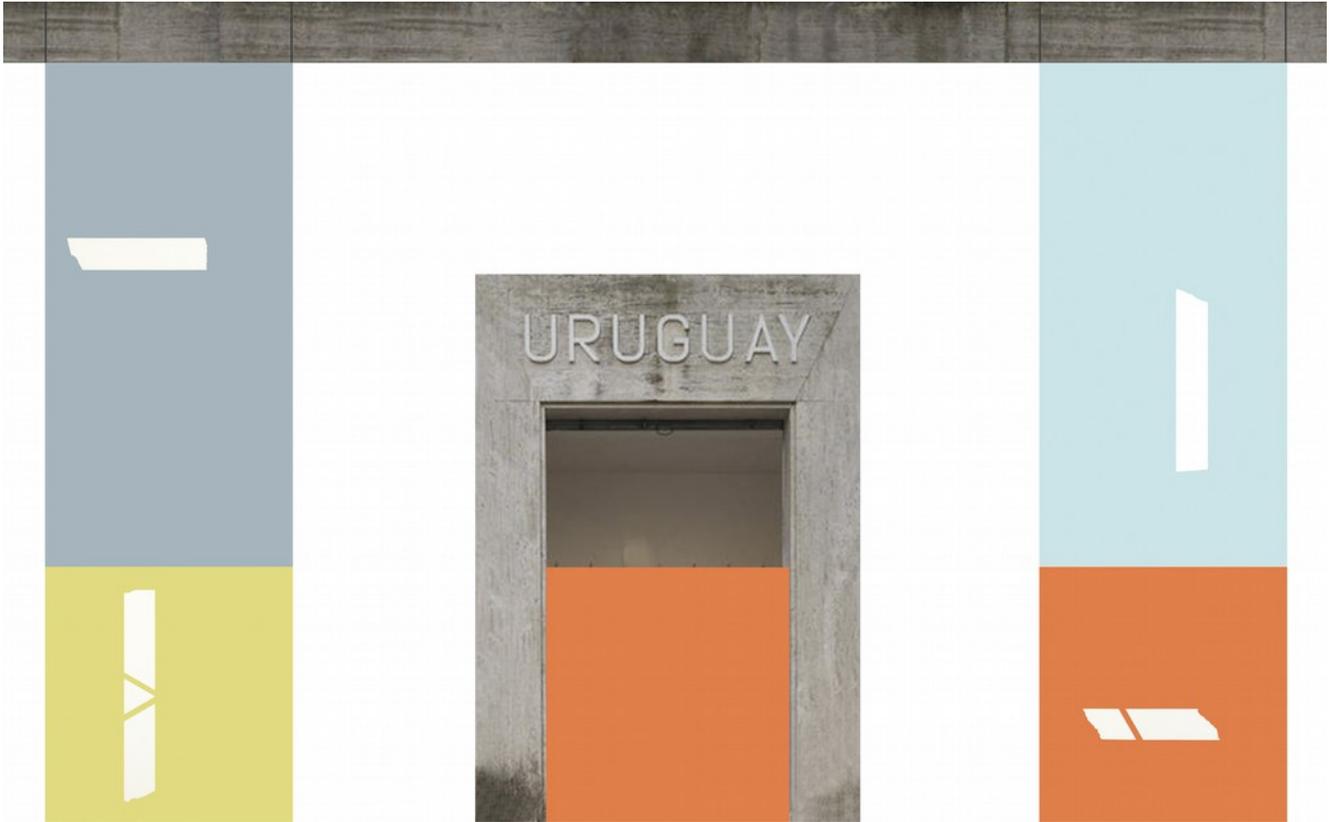
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El Pabellón de Uruguay en I Giardini de Venecia.



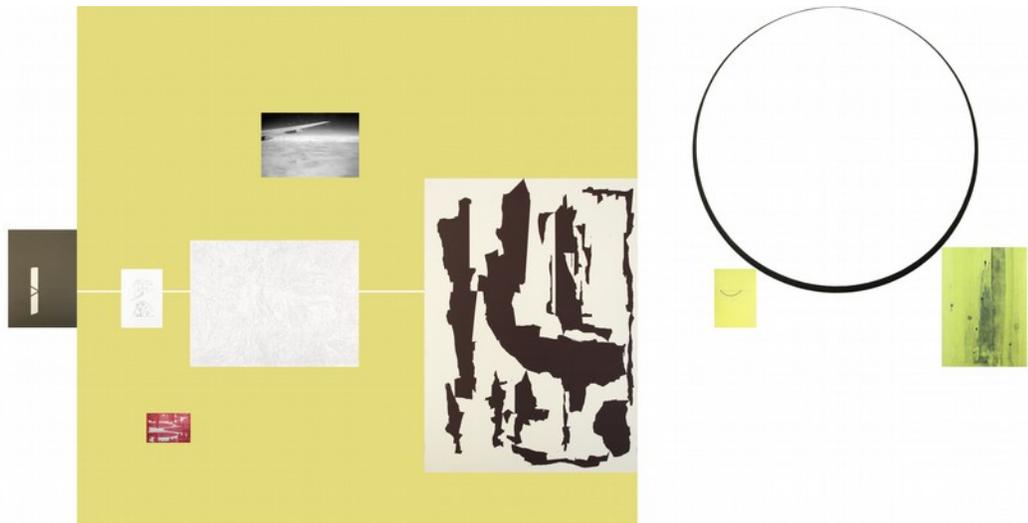
Plano del proyecto *La casa empática*. Pabellón de Uruguay en I Giardini de Venecia



Proyecto de fachada para *La casa empática*. Pabellón de Uruguay en I Giardini de Venecia



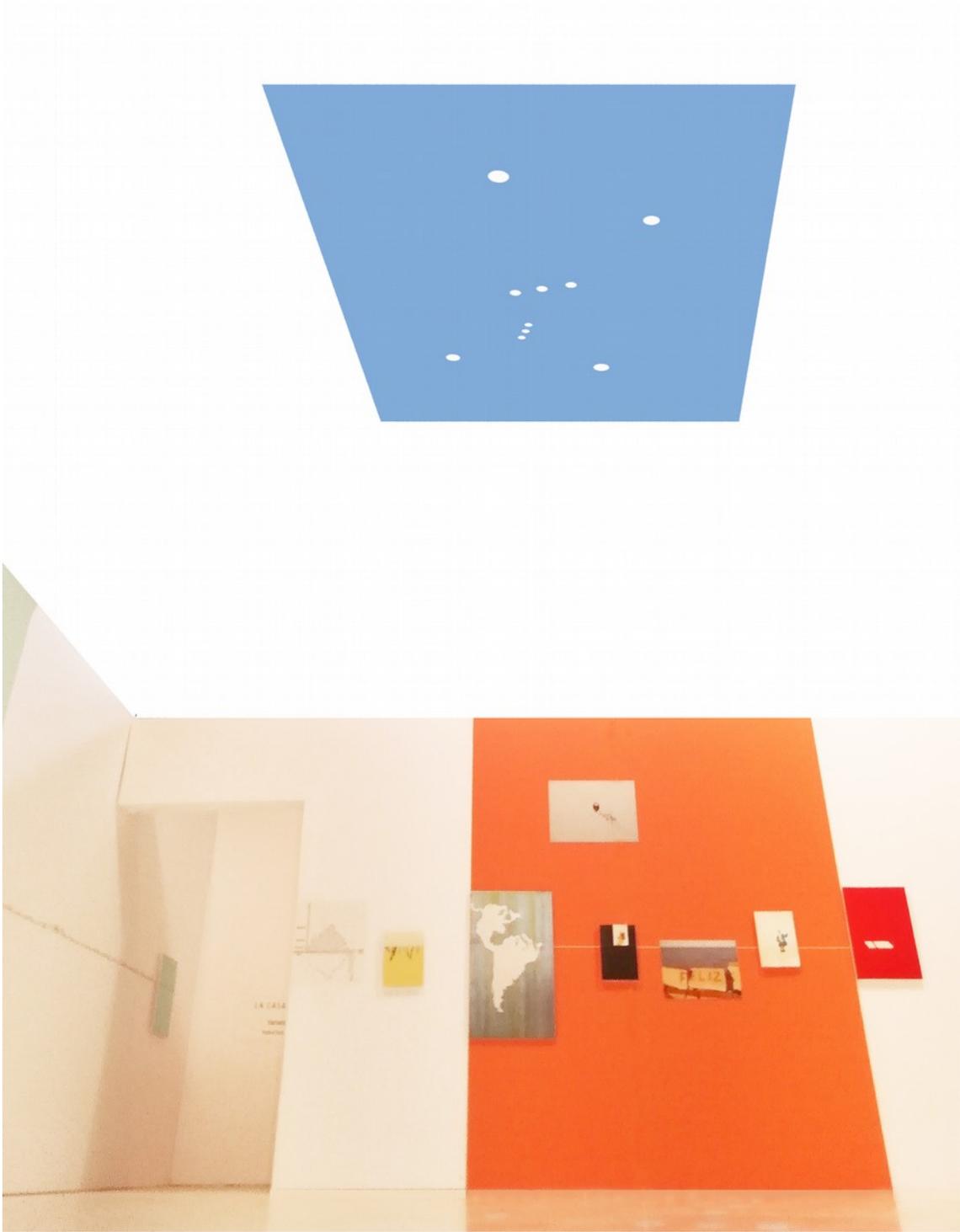
Muro este en el proyecto La casa empática. Pabellón de Uruguay en I Giardini de Venecia



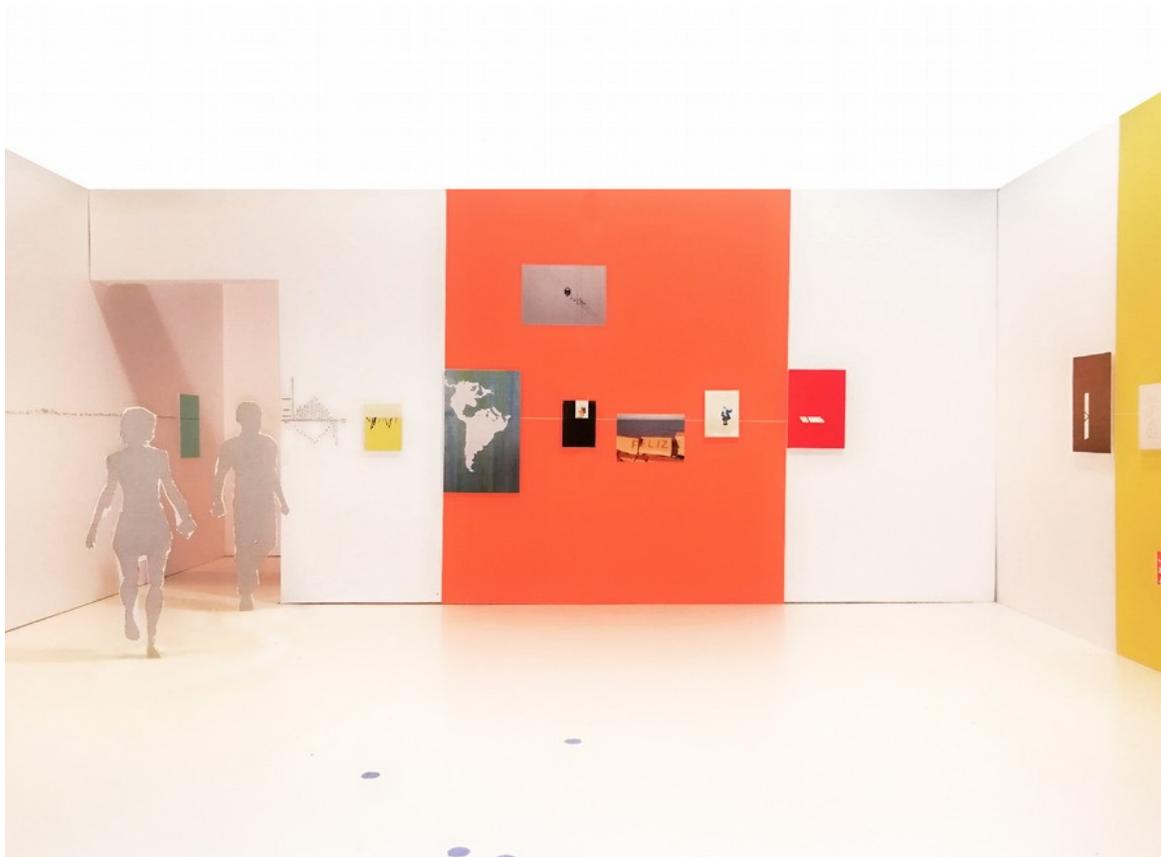
Muro oeste



Muro oeste y Muro norte



Muro sur y Orión



Muro sur



Migra, 2016. Gouache sobre papel. 110 x 68 cm



Inestable, 2018. Óleo sobre tela. 210 x 152 cm



En el muro, 2011. Fotografía digital. 42 x 60 cm



Maqueta del proyecto *La casa empática*

Yamandú Canosa (born 1954 in Montevideo)

Biographical summary

In the 70s, he began his architecture studies in Montevideo and made his first solo exhibitions in Montevideo and Buenos Aires. In 1975, he moved to Barcelona, where he was associated at different periods with the Joan Prats Gallery, the Benet Costa Gallery and the Ciento Gallery. Since then, he has made individual exhibitions in galleries, contemporary art centers and museums in Barcelona, Madrid, Valencia, Seville, Salamanca, Figueres, Paris, Rotterdam, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro and Los Angeles, among others.

His work has been selected in retrospective exhibitions of Spanish art at the Reina Sofia Art Center in Madrid (Spain), the Sprengel Museum in Hannover (Germany), Albuquerque Museum in New Mexico (USA), the Dalí Museum in St. Petersburg (USA) and the Bass Museum of Miami (USA).

In 2011, he presented *El árbol de los frutos diferentes (The tree of different fruits)*, at the Fundació Suñol in Barcelona (Spain) a retrospective of works of the last 20 years. In 2012, he presented *Detrás del muro (Behind the wall)* at the Rafael Ortiz Gallery in Seville (Spain); the installation *Hay lugar (There is place)*, at the 1st Art Biennial of Montevideo (Uruguay) and *Vaivén (Swing)*, at Xippas Contemporary Art, also in Montevideo (Uruguay). In 2014, he participated in Endesa 12 Scholarships, at the Museum of Teruel (Spain); in *Cono Sur*, in Xippas Contemporary Art, Punta del Este (Uruguay) and in *Latina*, in Gallerie Xippas, Geneva (Switzerland). In 2015, he participated in Montevideo in *El pensamiento oceanic (The oceanic thought)* at the EAC (Uruguay) and exhibited his recent work at Xippas Contemporary Art, Montevideo (Uruguay). In 2016, he exhibited at DA2 Domus Artium 2002, in Salamanca (Spain), at the TOC exhibition. In 2017 he participated in *Materia Prima* -a selection of the Catalan contemporary art scene-, for the presentation of the Fabra i Coats Contemporary Art Center of Barcelona, and in *Panorama*, in the Sala Subte of Montevideo (Uruguay), in a selection of Uruguayan contemporary art.

Awards and recognitions (selection)

2000 Pollock-Krasner Foundation Scholarship (USA).

2006 Jennifer Howard Coleman Distinguished Lectureship and Residency, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles (USA).

2007 Figari Prize –prize for career- (Uruguay).

2012 Endesa Scholarship (Spain).

Work in collections (selection)

La Caixa Contemporary Art Collection, Barcelona (Spain).

Collection DA2-Domus Artium, Salamanca (Spain).

Josep Suñol Collection, Barcelona (Spain).

Banc de Sabadell Foundation Collection, Barcelona (Spain).

Teruel Museum (Spain).

Coca-Cola Foundation Contemporary Art Collection (Spain).

Rafael Tous Collection, Barcelona (Spain).

Piramidón Collection (Spain).

Museu de l'Empordà, Figueres (Spain).

Museum of Fine Arts of Oviedo (Spain).

Fundació Eina Art Fund, Barcelona (Spain).

Maldonado Museum of American Art (Uruguay).

Valls Museum, Barcelona (Spain).

Since 2015 he has had his studio at *Piramidón Contemporary Art Centre*, in Barcelona.