STARSKY BRINES

Chance Event (Caso Fortuito)

Tania Iglesias · 2009

English translation for the artist’s website. Original text in Spanish.

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PRESS RELEASE

Exhibition: Starsky Brines, Caso Fortuito

December 3, 2009 – January 9, 2010

Starsky Brines (Caracas, 1977) presents his second solo exhibition at Galería Fernando Pradilla. A broad selection of drawings and paintings recently produced by the artist comes together in this exhibition, entitled Caso Fortuito, on view until January 9, 2010.

Starsky Brines's work seems to challenge our established anthropomorphic notions. His handling of form in creating the beings that inhabit his paintings prevents us from determining whether they are animals endowed with human traits and qualities or precisely the reverse. His characters seem obsessed by a persistent sense of hybridity and complementarity, a zoomorphic drive that transmutes appearances and results in a new species: beast-like and humanized at once. His creatures partake of this dual, complementary identity, which fragments and unifies them within a narrative of extravagant stories and unexpected visual relationships. Innocence and mischief, circumspection and informality, reproach and approval find their way into the interpretations through which this young artist metamorphoses everyday life.

With his customary artistic freedom, Starsky Brines unfolds a world of surprising beings and situations, in which humour, mockery, sarcasm and caricature allow him to contextualize the universe of his little human monsters. These are dynamic, narrative works with ingenious, ironic titles, their colourful, vigorous brushstrokes structuring a language defined by freshness, a keen sense of humour and a remarkable capacity for formal synthesis.

Starsky Brines holds a degree in Fine Arts from the Instituto Universitario de Estudios Superiores de Artes Plásticas Armando Reverón in Caracas. Since the late 1990s, he has presented his work in a variety of national and international venues. His work has earned wide recognition, reflected in recent participation in international fairs and exhibitions, where it has met with considerable success and acceptance among critics and the public. Since his first solo exhibition in Madrid, his work has made its way into European, Latin American and other international exhibition spaces, appearing in group exhibitions in

cities including Basel, Buenos Aires, Bogotá, Santander, Miami, Madrid and Seoul. In recent years, his work has also received several awards and distinctions, notably Second Prize at the VIII Salón CANTV Jóvenes con FIA: Miradas Abiertas (Caracas, 2005); the Juan Lovera Grand Prize at the XXXIII Salón Municipal de Artes Visuales (Caracas, 2004); an Honourable Mention at the XXIII Salón de Pintura del Ateneo de Carúpano (Sucre, 2003); and the Best Painting Award at the VII Salón Regional de Jóvenes Artistas, Puerto La Cruz (Anzoátegui, 2003).

Tania Iglesias

November 2009