



The show will open today and may be visited until 21 September 2014 in the Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo in Madrid

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In this exhibition, CA2M analyses the importance of current-day action art

- “Per/Form. How to do things with [out] words” is a project by Chantal Pontbriand, art curator and critic
- The project operates as a laboratory and includes installations, photographs, videos, “performances” and debates
- The first “Intensity Day” takes place today, with Julião Samento, Adrian Dan, La Ribot, Carey Young and Falke Pisano, among others.

**22.mar.14.-** Today, 22 March, CA2M Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo in Madrid inaugurates the group exhibition Per/Form. How to do things with [out] words, a project by Chantal Pontbriand, art curator and critic. The exhibition analyses the importance of performance (action art) in contemporary art and its resurgence in times of crisis, as an indication of the collective desire for change..

The exhibition is conceived as an event and brings together things to see and to hear. It includes objects, audiovisual materials, installations, photos, films and “bodies” as it is a “live” exhibition, with a considerable number of performances, talks and debates. Moreover, there will be three days called “Intensity Days” (22 March, opening day, 10 May and 20 September), on which the majority of the actions will be condensed.





*Per/Form. How to do things with[out] words*, boasts the participation of Mathieu Abonnenc, Jennifer Allora & Guillermo Calzadilla, Brad Butler & Karen Mirza, Geneviève Cadieux, Jean-Pierre Cometti, Agnès Dahan, Adrian Dan, Angela Detanico & Rafael Lain, Carole Douillard, Cevdet Erek, Köken Ergun, Esther Ferrer, Chiara Fumai, Ryan Gander, Simon Fujiwara, Dora García, Camille Henrot, Sandra Johnston, Amelia Jones, Latifa Laâbissi, La Ribot, Ines Lechleitner, Franck Leibovici, Cristina Lucas, Haroon Mirza, Antonio Negri, Roman Ondák, Falke Pisano, Chantal Pontbriand, Chloé Quenum, Pedro Reyes, José Antonio Sánchez, Julião Sarmiento, Ulla von Brandenburg, Carey Young and Héctor Zamora.

## PER/FORM

*PER/FORM* is an exploration of the subject of performance (action art) that is resurging once again, as occurred intensely in the 60's and 70's. Performance is always present in museums, galleries, art centers, art fairs, universities and art schools. And yet, we don't yet clearly know what it is. This project that aims to analyze this.

As a research project into action art, *PER/FORM* aims to watch, experience and understand what lies beneath the forms and behind them, and also what lies behind what the spectator sees and hears, in that "per" means to cross, to pass through.

The exhibition subtitle, *How to do things with[out] words*, refers to the English philosopher, John Langshaw Austin, who in 1962 published the book *How to do things without words*, which became a benchmark in the comprehension of performance. It is a work that explored situations, contexts and the way in which language, which consists of words and gestures, might affect them.

Within the exhibition, a space has been given over to the so-called "Intensity Laboratory" with a view to bringing together and exchanging, housing and displaying, on a permanent basis, the mark left by the actions that take place in the course of the exhibition.





The book, to coincide with the exhibition, includes visual essays by all participating artists, through images, words, drawings, paintings and documents. The authors of the texts included in the book consider the subject from different perspectives. The American historian and art critic, Amelia Jones, discusses the importance of the material and immaterial question in performance; the teacher and researcher, José Antonio Sánchez, reflects on the metaphors of the action; the French philosopher, Jean-Pierre Cometti, relates the experience of his reappraisal through performance, and finally, the Italian philosopher, Antonio Negri, links the political to action art in the present-day..

### **Día de intensidad 22 de marzo/ Apertura de la exposición**

Today, Saturday 22 March, opening day of the exhibition, the first “Intensity Day” will take place. It will begin at 17:00 and go on until 23:00.

All day long, there will be live performances as well as talks on the artistic action in contemporary art.

The artists, Adrian Dan, Dora García, La Ribot, Pedro Reyes, Julião Sarmiento, Roman Ondák and Chloé Quenumwill continuously present their performances and installations. And, at specific moments, Héctor Zamora, Angela Detanico y Rafael Lain, Cevdet Erek, Falke Pisano, Carey Young and Geneviève Cadieux, will show their work through performances and talks.

Moreover, at 19:00 the introduction to *PER/FORM* will be celebrated along with a debate with Jean-Pierre Cometti, La Ribot, Franck Leibovici, Chantal Pontbriand and José Antonio Sanchez, moderated by Ferran Barenblit. It will be in English, with simultaneous translation.

Admittance to the exhibition, as well as all the activities is free. Further information and the full program are available at [www.ca2m.madrid.org](http://www.ca2m.madrid.org)

