

MIQUEL BARCELÓ

- 12 December 2012 - 10 March 2013
- Opening 11 December 2012 at 6.30 pm
- Pictorial material at <http://presse.leisuregroup.at/kunstforum/barcelo>

Miquel Barceló (born in 1957 in Felanitx, Majorca, lives and works in Paris and on Majorca) represents one of the leading formations in New Painting that defined the art of the nineteen-eighties. Among the events and exhibitions where his works have been exhibited are documenta 1982, Centre Pompidou, Paris 1996, the Museo de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid 1999, and the Biennale de Venezia 2009.

In Barceló's art, material and form are directly connected. The process-oriented moment of forming and kneading the material - whether loam, clay, earth or pastose oil paint - are always palpable in the end product. Archaic qualities dominate. What matters for him is recollection, the collective memory of the elemental and archetypal. His works iridesce like shot silk between becoming and decaying: sensuous fruits in over-ripe lushness that rot in the next moment, mutating into skulls. Barceló likewise integrates processes in his work that are outside art, for instance when the artist lets termite perforate his works on paper, or blackens the canvas with the fireplace ash of his studio. Nature is inscribed as a permanently changing constant. He thus came to create classical marine pictures and seascapes, like weather maps, or massive waves, shaped by dynamic masses of colour. Barceló thus conceives his painting and sculpture as a constantly changing system, as an open cosmos between life and death.