

## TRAVESIA CUATRO

Jose Dávila. Guadalajara, Mexico, 1968.

Jose Dávila's work questions the modernist tradition that has given shape to art practices of the XX century. By appropriation and a subsequent reconfiguration the artist uses other artworks as raw material, emphasizing the way in which they have been registered and placed in circulation as images. Resorting to duplication and alteration, Dávila fractures the dynamics of recognition that normally permit the configuration of icons and ways of seeing. Another route for approaching this issue is the transformation of the pictorial into sculptural elements, imposing spatial consequences to images that used to be two-dimensional.

Dávila's sculptural work takes as point of departure the specificity of the materials he employs, their origin and value are elements that take great significance; industrial materials such as glass, steel or concrete, interact with natural raw materials like marble and rocks. The artist also uses common objects for creating replicas of easily recognizable sculptures created by other artists, intending to show how certain forms of occupying space are also inscribed within the system of visual referentiality that frames western art history.

Influenced by his education in architecture, Dávila arranges objects as if they were basic elements of drawing (point, line and plane) for creating systems that exemplify notions of equilibrium, stability and permanence.

His work has been exhibited in numerous institutions and museums such as: Museo Universitario de Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City, Mexico; Caixa Forum, Madrid, Spain; MoMA PS1, New York, USA; Kunst-Werke Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany; San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, USA; Museo de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain; MAK, Vienna, Austria; Fundación JUMEX, Mexico City, Mexico; Bass Museum of Art, Miami, USA; Museu de Arte Moderna, Sao Paulo, Brazil; The Moore Space, Miami, USA; NICC, Antwerp, Belgium; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France; Marfa Contemporary, Texas, USA; Voorlinden Museum, Wassenaar, Netherlands, among others. His work has been included in the following publications: Cream 3 (Phaidon), 100 Latin-American Artists (Exit) and Megastructures-Reloaded (Hatje Cantz).

#### **TRAVESIA CUATRO**

Dávila has received the following grants and residencies: Andy Warhol Foundation, Kunst-Werke Residency and the Beca Nacional para Jóvenes Artistas, FONCA. Dávila was co-founder and co-director of the independent space OPA (Oficina para Proyectos de Arte) in Guadalajara, Mexico; the artist currently lives and works in this city.