

TRAVESIA CUATRO

Mateo López. Bogota, Colombia, 1978.

Mateo López expands the practice of drawing taking its consequences beyond the two-dimensional; he transforms tracing into a tool for constructing tangible objects. For the artist drawing is a way to position himself on the limit of objects, enabling him to play with its specificity, this produces a certain oneiric character that reveals the existence of multiple personal narratives to the spectator.

Mateo López's work is mainly determined by the effort of sketching the paths of memory, the constant movement between past and present, this has taken the artist to employ drawing as a method for tracing his own transit within the world. López has focused in how spaces can acquire a subjective quality by means of constant human activity; personal experience is his starting point, referencing both his studio and his apartment, to consider how memory can get affixed to things. By accepting this, the artist has the possibility to map events and anecdotes by establishing relationships between objects. Mateo López reproduces memories and converts them into something susceptible to displacement through the creation of portable modules that host different collections of objects.

His work has been exhibited in institutions such as: MUSAC, León, Spain (2009); Gasworks, London, United Kingdom (2010); The Jerusalem Center of Visual Arts, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Israel (2012); The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA (2013); Museo de Arte Moderno, Medellín, Colombia (2014); The Drawing Room, London, United Kingdom (2015); Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China; he has an upcoming solo show at The Drawing Center, New York, USA (2017). In 2013, he participated in the exhibition A Trip from Here to There curated by Jodi Hauptman and Luis Pérez-Oramas at MoMA, New York; in 2015 his work was included in the group show United States of Latin America curated by Jens Hoffman and Pablo León de la Barra at Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit. Mateo López participated in the 29th Bienal de Sao Paulo, Brazil (2010); Bienal de Mercosur, Porto Alegre, Brazil (2011) and the 43 Salón Nacional de Artistas, Colombia (2013).

The artist lives and works in New York, USA.