

MATEO LÓPEZ (Bogotá, 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 The Drawing Center in New York (2017); the Blueproject Foundation, Barcelona (2017); Museo de Arte de la Universidad Nacional de Bogotá (2017); Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, China (2016); Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (2015); The Drawing Room, London, UK (2015); Museo de Arte Moderno, Medellín, Colombia (2014); The Museum of Modern Art MoMA in New York (2013); The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, US (2013); The Jerusalem Center of Visual Arts, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Israel (2012); Gasworks, London, UK (2010); MUSAC, León, Spain (2009). In 2012-2013 he was chosen as the Protégé of South African artista William Kentridge for the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts program. He took part in the 43rd Salon Nacional de Artistas, Colombia (2013), the Mercosur Biennial in Porto Alegre, Brazil (2011) and the 29th Biennial of São Paulo, Brazil (2010).

Mateo López lives and works in New York, USA.