

# JUAN BÉJAR

Málaga, 1946

One of the most outstanding and singular painters of the generation that burst onto the scene in the early seventies defending figuration. Since then he has never ceased to explore, with unfathomable talent, the complexity of the figure as an aesthetic emotion.

A founding member of the Colectivo Palmo, a real driving force of modernity and avant-garde in Malaga in the eighties, he is possibly the only member of a Royal Academy - in this case the San Telmo Fine Arts Academy - who has renounced such an investiture.

An extensive catalogue of solo and group exhibitions, held in Spain and abroad (Pamplona, Malaga, Madrid, Barcelona, Gijón, Santander, Dresden, El Salvador...) explain his long artistic career and the solidity of his work, which is represented in important public and private collections: Varez-Fisa Collection (Madrid), Helmut Brenske (Hannover), Duquesa de Alba, (Madrid), Pablo Ruiz Picasso Foundation (Málaga), Museum of Fine Arts (Málaga), Museum of Modern Art, (San Salvador), Pamplona, etc.

Juan Béjar's work, far removed from the effects of fashion, is based on a solid mastery of composition, drawing and matter. His painting is the antithesis of arbitrariness and unreason, an exercise in originality and creative energy. The characters that inhabit it evoke, with poetic and mournful expression, a reality to which they refuse to pay obeisance. It is as if the artist were trying, in the manner of Proust, to rediscover something lost, a new view of the world, a metaphorical image of dreams, the value of the instinctive and inapprehensible, the communication of the senses.

In Juan Béjar's painting, as in De Chirico's old stations, the desire to flee and the anguish of departure, the calm and the disturbance, the tear and the irony coexist, wrapped in an indefinable atmosphere, a universe of connotations, voices and registers.

(Miguel Ramos Morente, Culture Manager and art critic)

## Exposiciones

**2019** Portrait Collective at Fermín Echaury Gallery in Pamplona | Collective at RJD Gallery in Bridgehampton, N.Y.

**2018** PAN Amsterdam. Contempo Galerie | Small Format Collective at Fermín Echaury 2 Gallery. Pamplona | "Architecture" Collective at Benedito Gallery. Málaga.

**2017** Individual at Fermín Echaury 2 Gallery. Pamplona | PAN Amsterdam. Contempo Gallery.

**2016** Individual at the Economic Society of Friends of the Country, Malaga, sponsored by the Social Council of the University of Malaga. Realisme, Amsterdam.

**2015** Realisme. Individual Gallery Fermín Echaury 2. Pamplona | PAN Amsterdam. Contempo Gallery.

**2012** Small format in Alfama Gallery, Madrid.

**2011** Individual at Thomas Punzmann fine arts-Frankfurt | Small format at Alfama Gallery- Madrid | Art Format Berlin-Thomas Punzmann fine arts | Individual at Contempo Galerie-Rotterdam | PAN Amsterdam- Contempo Galerie.

**2010** REALISME, Amsterdam, Stand of the Contempo Art Gallery Rotterdam | Group exhibition at the EBOLI GALLERY, Madrid | ART FAIR Den Bosch, Stand of the Contempo Art

Gallery Rotterdam | HOT ART BASEL, Punzmann Gallery stand, Marbella, Málaga | Small format at GALERÍA ALFAMA, Madrid | "El Sueño" GALERÍA BENEDICTO, MÁLAGA, September | Small format at GALERÍA FERMÍN ECHAURIZ, Pamplona | Berliner Liste. With Thomas Punzmann Gallery | PAN Amsterdam. Contempo Gallery.

**2009** Individual in SARA NIGHTINGALE GALLERY, Shelter Island, New York | REALISME, Amsterdam, Stand of Contempo Art Gallery Rotterdam | ART FAIR Den Bosch, Stand of Contempo Art Gallery Rotterdam | GALERÍA ALFAMA, Madrid, "PEQUEÑO FORMATO" | Berliner Liste 09 fair for contemporary art. THOMAS PUNZMANN GALLERY | GALERÍA FERMÍN ECHAURY, Pamplona, collective | GALERÍA ALFAMA, Madrid, "XXV Anniversary" BERLINER LISTE 09, Berlin, Stand of THOMAS PUNZMANN GALLERY, Marbella | PAN Amsterdam - Stand of Contempo Galerie de Rotterdam.

**2008** Individual in THOMAS PUNZMANN GALLERY, Marbella, Malaga | PAN AMSTERDAM, Holland, Stand of Contempo Art Gallery Rotterdam | Collective in Alfama Gallery, Madrid, "SMALL FORMAT" | BERLINER LISTE 08, Berlin, Stand of

THOMAS PUNZMANN GALLERY | Marbella. Medal ATENEO

**2008** (Painting), Malaga.

**2007** Participates in the Art Fair REALISME with the Art Gallery Contempo Rotterdam | Individual at the Art Gallery FERMÍN ECHAURI, Pamplona.

**2006** Participates in the PAN Art Fair with the Contempo Art Gallery of Rotterdam | "SMALL FORMAT" at the ALFAMA Art Gallery in Madrid | Exhibition "Plastic Arts of the twentieth century" at the Museum of Malaga.

**2005** Collective "Dream and Reality" at the Alfama Gallery. Madrid | Collective Exhibition "Small Format" at the Alfama Gallery. Madrid | "Raices" individual at the Alfama Gallery, Madrid.

**2004** SEVILLE ART Fair with Alfama Gallery | ARCO'04 Fair with the Diputación Provincial de Málaga | Individual exhibition at FermínEchauri Gallery. Pamplona | Collective "Small Format" at the Alfama Gallery. Madrid.

**2003** Feria DE ARTE (MADRID) with Alfama Gallery | Feria ARTE SEVILLA, with Alfama Gallery | Solo exhibition at Espacio Gallery in San Salvador (El Salvador) | The painting "Juegos de Noche" becomes part of the Collection of the Museo de Arte Moderno de San Salvador (El Salvador) | Modern - Masters Collective, Punzmann Gallery. San Pedro de Alcantara.

**2001** Collective Exhibition in Miami (USA:) with the Espacio Gallery | Solo exhibition at the Cruz Herrera Museum (La Línea de la Concepción) | Solo exhibition at the Alfama Gallery (Madrid).

**1999** Solo exhibition at the Alfama Gallery. Madrid "Arte Santander". Santander | Retrospective in the Houses of the Eagle and the Vine Santillana del Mar, sponsored by the Government of Cantabria | Collective "XV anniversary of Alfama Gallery" (Madrid).

**2000** Individual in Fermín Echauri Gallery. Pamplona | XI Exhibition of Latin American Painting and Sculpture at the Espacio de San Salvador Gallery. (El Salvador).

**1998** Painters Malagueños in the City of Dresden | Collective Exhibition. Germany | Collective in Alfama Gallery. Madrid | Collective "Small Format" in Fermín Echauri Gallery. Pamplona | The Picasso Foundation (Malaga) acquires the work "The Little Prince" (1998).

"The other reality". Collective exhibition. CaixaOurense.

Participates in "Arte Santander" with the Alfama Gallery of Madrid | "XI Salón de Otoño" of the Press Association of Malaga. Hall of the Caja Rural.

**1997** Collective in the Museum of Fine Arts of Malaga. Malaga Painters of Today.

**1996** Collective Exhibition commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Exhibition Hall of the Diputación de Málaga. Collective Exhibition "Contemporary Painters of Málaga" in the Church of the Convent of the Incarnation of Coín.

**1995** Individual in Gallery Durero. Gijón | Individual in Fermín Echauri Gallery. Pamplona.

1993 Individual at Fermín Echauri Gallery. Pamplona.

1992 Europ'Art Ginebra (Afinsa-Lagasca Gallery) | Individual Exhibition at Afinsa-Lagasca. Madrid.

**1991** Collective Twenty Painters of Malaga | Civil Government. Malaga | Exhibition of the Association of the Press in Gallery Benedito. Malaga | He realizes for order of the Town hall the poster of the Fair of Malaga | Collective in Gallery Durero. Gijón.

**1990** Collective in Ateneo of Malaga.

**1989** Individual in FerminEchauri Gallery. Pamplona.

**1987** Collective Exhibition at Durero Gallery. Gijón | The Andalusian Government acquires his work "Retrato Onírico de FredAstaire" (Dream Portrait of FredAstaire).

**1986** Individual in Fermin Echauri Gallery. Pamplona.

**1985** Arco 85. Stand of the Palmo Collective. Madrid.

**1984** Individual Gallery Malaeke. Malaga.

**1983** Municipal Exhibition Hall. Collective Palmo. Marbella.

**1982** Museum of Los Tilos. Granada | Bil-Bil Castle. Nine Painters from Málaga. Benalmádena.

**1981** Collective in Gallery Manuela. Malaga | Collective in Gallery Yunque. Malaga.

**1980** Collective in Pro of the Human Rights, organized by Amnesty International | Collective in Prake 15 | Collective in Palmo. Malaga.

**1977** Collective "Contradictions of Realism". Gallery Parque 15. Pamplona | Collective in the Room of C.A.A. Malaga | Collective in Gallery Talía. Estepona.1979 Member of the Collective Palmo | First Sample of the Individual Collective in Parake 15. Pamplona | II Exhibition of Andalusian Painters. University of Seville. Seville.

**1976** Individual in Heller Gallery, Madrid | Selected to participate in the Exhibition of Spanish Painting in Moscow.

**1975** Collective Exhibition of First Medals, Malaga | Collective in Lacayí Gallery, Malaga | Of Expressionism and Surrealism, Malaga.

**1974** Individual at the Majestic Gallery, Barcelona.

**1973** Individual in the Gallery of Contemporary Art, Malaga | Second Prize and Silver Lions in the National Biennial of Wine in Painting.

**1972** Individual in the Economic Society Friends of the Country. Malaga.

**1968** He makes several portraits and murals. He participates in collective exhibitions on contemporary Spanish painting. Hannover (Germany).

**1966** Individual in the Economic Society Friends of the Country. Malaga.

**1965** VI Winter Salon, he obtains the Nogales Prize.

**1964** Collective Exhibition. Düsseldorf, München, Nürnberg.

**1963** First Prize for Painting and Prize for Drawing in the VI Regional Art Contest.

**1962** V Provincial Art Contest. Second Prize, Malaga