

*Juan Pablo Macías*

# TIEMPO MUERTO

*HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE IN TWENTY MINUTES*

*curated by Emily Barsi*

kunstraum muenchen  
22.11. - 24.11.2013

**Opening Friday, 22. 11. at 6 pm**

**Project presentation and Artist Talk at 7 pm**  
Saturday and Sunday 5:30 – 10:00 pm

*“Freedom of reading, open conversation and discipleship have been traditional ways of education in different cultures, of social learning, but at some point we lost the thread of a pleasurable conversation – the conversation that made us go down from the trees, to sit around fire and enjoy conversation, to lose the tail, to lose the tail for the amusement to be around others listening stories that fire illuminates, that allow us to sift the memory in the mill of forgetfulness.”*

Braulio Hornedo Rocha, “History of the Universe in twenty minutes”, Puebla 2011

***History of the Universe in twenty minutes*** is the title of the exhibition of the Mexican artist Juan Pablo Macías taking place the 22th of November 2013 at Kunstraum München. The artist, who has already displayed his project Tiempo Muerto in August 2012 in the context of a summer residence, has now been invited to present the latest issues of the project.

The exhibition focuses on the editorial process of the last two issues of Tiempo Muerto, TM#2 and TM#3. The editorial project was activated in 2012 as a way of accompanying his long-standing project BSR (2009-2010), as pages for reflecting in an abstract and pragmatic sense, the relation between power knowledge and insurreccional knowledge. The main objective of BSR project is the acquisition of a new place for the Biblioteca Social Reconstruir,<sup>1</sup> one of the most important libraries for anarchist literature in Mexico in order to make it accessible to the public again. Major topics of the

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<sup>1</sup> ***Biblioteca Social Reconstruir*** (Library Social Reconstruir) was founded in 1978 by Ricardo Mestre Ventura, an anarchist veteran of the Spanish Civil War. In 1980, it opened its doors to the public and became in the following years the major source of information on anarchism in Mexico with its collection of more than 5000 books, amongst them 1000 that are specifically related to anarchism. In July 2009, the library was evicted with a sequestration order. Friends and supporters managed in time to get the collection out of the rented property to save it. Since then the library has been put away in boxes and stored in a small apartment in Mexico City.

journal are the inaccessibility of information held in the hands of private and public institutions, the issue of private property and a critical view of the educational system. Anarchist writers and philosophers, from the XIX century to our days, deal with these topics from different angles and different fields in TM's pages.

The title of the exhibition refers to the text contained in TM#3, *History of the Universe in 20 Minutes* of the Mexican architect, philosopher and writer Braulio Hornedo Rocha who, during a performance in Puebla, Mexico, explained the history of the universe from 13.700 million years ago until today within 20 minutes. His narration of the origin of the universe, of the solar system and of the most important stages in the development of mankind (fire, agriculture, language and urban development) and a quote from Goethe on the importance of knowing the history of the past 3.000 years, introduces his critical thoughts about today's highly regimented education controlled by capitalism. An education that does not lead to a free, universally thinking spirit, but only specialises people to insert them into a division of labor.

Photographs, videos, and various actions and performances that have been generated along the editorial activities, document the process and serve as materials of the exhibition.

Among others, 448 small-size pictures that compose the supplement of *Tiempo Muerto #2* will be in show during the exhibition. The pictures illustrate the development of a utopian colony in Mexico, an ideal community founded in the second half of the nineteenth century. The photographs will be displayed on the walls of the Kunstraum München and can be directly purchased by the visitors for an amount equal to the fees charged by the "original owners." In this way an economic mechanism will be set in motion during the three days of the exhibition; the appropriation of the same economical mechanisms that institutions use over cultural patrimony.

***"THE ISOLATED INDIVIDUAL, HAS HE A RIGHT TO A PERSONAL RE-APPROPRIATION OF HIS PART OF THE COLLECTIVE PROPERTY? HOW CAN IT BE DOUBTED. THE COLLECTIVE PROPERTY BEING APPROPRIATED BY A FEW, WHY SHOULDN'T IT BE TAKEN BACK IN DETAIL, WHEN IT CAN'T BE TAKEN BACK AS A WHOLE? — Elisee Reclus***

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