

PRESS RELEASE

Richard Gareth & Andres Michelena: “Revealing”

Curated by Betty Alice McGhee

Piero Atchugarry Gallery presents *Revealing*, an immersive exhibition of sound art, poetry and installation by Richard Gareth and Andres Michelena.

Richard Gareth and Andres Michelena’s first collaborative exhibition, *Revealing* meditates upon the subtle nuances of space, matter and subjectivity from a phenomenological yet poetic point of view.

EXHIBITION DATE: April 23 – June 4, 2022

OPENING RECEPTION: 6pm to 8pm, Saturday, April 23, 2022

PLACE: Piero Atchugarry Gallery

5520 NE 4th Avenue, Miami, FL 33137

Piero Atchugarry Gallery is pleased to announce *Revealing*, a dual exhibition of interwoven text, image, movement and sound, by **Richard Gareth** (b. 1972, Montevideo, Uruguay) and **Andres Michelena** (b. 1963, Caracas, Venezuela). Gareth and Michelena have shared a friendship dating back to 2006, marked by mutual respect and a common interest in the concept of emptiness. Gareth’s materials emerge from ontological investigations of background noise and the decadence-and-decay of technological utilities. He seeks to invert the normative function of background noise from unconscious status to active presence. In 2013 he was one of 16 artists to participate in “Soundings: A Contemporary Score”—the MoMA’s first major exhibition of sound art. Gareth’s works are present in private and public collections of Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation (CIFO), Merchant Logo Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA), Sayago & Pardon, Julian Navarro, Alex Slato, Robert Bielecki, Michael Cohn, and Steve Comford, to name a few. If art is a language, what interests Andrés Michelena the most are its punctuation marks, its pauses, and its silences. In 2020 Michelena presented . . . *the two*—a solo exhibition at Piero Atchugarry Gallery—which, emblematic of his practice, was a mixture of poetry and installation generated from repurposed found materials. Michelena’s works are present in private and public collections like Estrellita Brodsky’s Collection, Brillembourg-Capriles Collection, Arturo Filio, Arturo Mosquera, Lothar Muller, Miami Dade College’s Collection, JCMAC, and MoLAA’s Permanent Collection, among others.

Revealing meditates on immateriality and manifestation from a phenomenological yet poetic point of view. Suspended from the gallery ceiling, Gareth’s *30 Cycles of Flux* is an *objet sonore* which paradoxically is unlistenable. An oscillator emits a 30 cycles wave (right below human beings’ hearing range) to activate speaker cones, which in turn move strings in a constant flow, subsequently producing a kinetic visualization of the wave. At the intersection of absence and presence, we instinctively strain to hear these sounds; This active mode of listening allows the “white noise” that lies dormant in our subconscious to infiltrate the initially perceived silence. Michelena’s *Loop Whole* uses the preordained architectural logic of the gallery; the artist acts as a collaborator, activating contours of empty space with

thread. Inside of the contour, Michelena punctures the walls, articulating barely perceptible phrases. Each poetic gesture reveals the discrete language of the gallery's configuration.

When viewed together, *30 Cycles of Flux* and *Loop Whole* relay Marshall McLuhan's emblematic proposition: "The medium is the message." The content does not blind us to the characteristics of the medium, but instead imparts its most imperceptible traits. The artists necessitate a careful mode of observation, entreating spectators to look rather than see; to listen rather than hear; to search for something real, just out of our realm of perception. Each sense is heightened by the absence of stimuli. Like eyes adjusting in a dark room, gradually the invisible and silent things that live among us come into focus.

In December 2018, with a space established in Garzón, Uruguay, Piero Atchugarry expanded his program to North America to a warehouse in Miami's renowned Design District neighborhood. A 9,000-square-foot art space, the **Piero Atchugarry Gallery** is committed to supporting and presenting the work of local and international artists with an institutional approach.

The public opening reception of *Revealing* will take place from 6pm to 8pm on Saturday, April 23rd at the Piero Atchugarry Gallery. The opening is free and open to the public.

For more information, high resolution images, and to arrange an interview with Richard Garet, Andres Michelena or Piero Atchugarry, please contact Nataly Ballon, admin@pieroatchugarry.com or at (305) 639-8247.

Visit the Piero Atchugarry Gallery at <http://www.pieroatchugarry.com/>

The Piero Atchugarry Gallery is located at 5520 NE 4th Avenue, Miami FL 33137.