The Social Life of Images

Mario Jiménez Díaz

Artist statement:

Emerging around the turn of the millennium as a multidisciplinary study from such diverse fields as art history, aesthetics, film theory, cultural studies, media theory, visual culture, postcolonial studies, and gender studies, visual studies respond to the need to analyze an area of growing importance in contemporary societies: that of visuality. Therefore, I try to account, without disciplinary restrictions, the processes of production of cultural meaning that have their origin in the public circulation of images. I could, thus, describe my work as investigations into "the social life of images", analyzing the processes of the cultural construction of visuality.

Artist biography:

Originally from the Mexican town of Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mario Jiménez Díaz lived his first years under the influence of a hybrid environment resulting from the mixture of cultures typical of border regions. His early experiences were coloured especially through mass-media exposure to North American pop culture. He completed his professional studies at the School of Visual Arts of the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, obtaining a Bachelor of Visual Arts with a specialty in Production of audiovisual languages, which led to experience in various production houses in the city of Monterrey and later at the Tecnológico de Monterrey System as an audiovisual producer of educational materials. At that time, he carried out his first plastic experiments, discovering oil painting, the ideal medium to transmit and communicate his ideas. He later moved to the city of Barcelona, Spain, where he obtained a Master's Degree in Advanced Studies in Art History from the Universitat de Barcelona. With more than 20 years of professional experience, he currently divides his time between work as a visual artist, an art director for various film productions, and a professor at several educational institutions in his native hometown.

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“Twin cities torn apart” Oil on canvas, 2020
Jiménez Diaz, The Social Life of Images

"Migrants 01" Linoprint, 2020
“Migrants 02” Linoprint, 2020
“Migrants 04” Linoprint, 2020
“Ninth November night 01” Oil on canvas, 2019
“Ninth November night 02” Urban Mural (Matamoros, Mx), 2021
“Sonso ladeado” Oil on Wood, 2022
"The garden of early delights"
Oil on canvas, 2018
"The last supper" Oil on canvas, 2018