

ALFREDO ALCAIN

LETRAS

May 3 - June 1, 2011

Galería Elvira Gonzalez opens next May 3 the exhibition Letters by Alfredo Alcain (Madrid, 1936). This is the fourth exhibition that the artist holds at the Gallery and it is made up of 29 works in oil, gouache, pencil and mixed media on different supports such as sandpaper, felt, kitchen towels, canvas... with the letters of the alphabet as the central element.



Abecedario, 2007
Óleo sobre tela manchada

The motif of the letters is repeated throughout Alcain's career with works dating from 1982 to 2010. The different supports on which he works have been a source of inspiration for Alcain. The painting *Abecedario* made on 48 rags with which the artist has cleaned the brushes, is a perfect example of how the subject of the painting itself is a motif of Alcain's painting.

Alfredo Alcain, painter, engraver and illustrator, as he himself points out in his work "to achieve a poetic end not through beautiful models but through beautiful elements" For Alcain, the so-called abstract painting does not exist in reality. For him, the laws of composition of nature are offered to the artist not to imitate them, since nature has its own purposes, but to be confronted with art.

Luis Gordillo, has called Alcain's style as "realism in the method". According to Gordillo "it is a matter of not appearing more than what one is, of a certain asceticism in the expression, of a certain joy of his concrete being, of taking to the maximum limit of intensity the relation between potentialities and limitations. All this gives Alfredo's work a clear light, a glow of patiently carved stone, a peaceful clarity, a concrete tenderness."

Alfredo Alcain, studied Fine Arts at the San Fernando School and at the School of Cinematography in Madrid. His style has often been in relation with pop-art, although his work

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has important differences with the movement. Above all, Alfredo Alcain is a painter, passionate about painting itself. As he himself affirms "he could spend a hundred years painting, a thousand years painting without stopping".

In 2003 he received the National Plastic Arts Award granted by the Ministry of Culture. In November 2011, La Casa de la Moneda in Madrid will hold a solo exhibition of the artist's work from 1969 to 2011.



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