

## SEBASTIAN RIFFO MONTENEGRO

Born in Chile in 1980, Sebastian Riffo Montenegro is a painter and digital artist that also currently works as an Art Director in Marketing and Advertising. Montenegro creates paintings that criticize consumer society and socially constructed beliefs. Disposable artificial products that envelop and define the behavior of humans are the subject of criticism; products with no inherent value that have an expiration date.



The literal lines and meticulous technique of the works seem to offer an unquestionable realism where the images, textures, and palette are clear, frontal and concrete. However, the work of Montenegro inevitably urges the viewer to delve into the underlying mysteries of the series; reconsidering what is initially offered as mere imagery. Deliberately worked from photographs, the artist's pictorial images refer directly to Walter Benjamin's theory of mechanical reproducibility, which defines our existing consumer society. Consequently, Montenegro's paintings act as a catalyst for criticism towards the subconscious consumption of images and the effect that consumerist social constructs have on this consumption.

Faceless figures in raincoats maneuver through deconstructed color-field backgrounds. Working with a selective palette and controlled lighting, Montenegro reveals the intent of his work through veils of lucid colors and mysterious forms. The ensuing works refer frankly to socio-cultural icons that shape a subconscious discourse. Absence paradoxically presents clear criticism of current social mores. Through pictorial allegories, the paintings provoke the need to discern new meaning and awaken the tacit human condition of free will.

### EXHIBITIONS + ART FAIRS

- |      |   |      |  |
|------|---|------|--|
| 2019 | Art Wynwood Fair, Miami, FL<br>Palm Beach Modern + Contemporary, Miami, FL  | 2016 | Art Palm Beach, Palm Beach, FL<br>"Sagrado Profano," Galeria Ambos Mundos, Buenos Aires, Argentina<br>Arte Espacio, Buenos Aires, Argentina<br>"Mestizaje," Campus Bellavista U. San Sebastian, Santiago, Chile<br>"Expo Manifiesta," Galeria Fauna, Santiago, Chile<br>"Exposicion Colectiva Dimensiones," Galerie Fauna, Santiago, Chile |
| 2018 | Stroke Art Fair, Munich, Germany<br>"Contemporary Transformation," Duke Art Space, Bangkok, Thailand<br>Art Boca Raton, Miami, FL<br>Art Wynwood Fair, Miami, FL<br>Opening Show, Art Labbe Gallery, Coral Gables, FL | 2015 | FAXXI Art Fair, Santiago, Chile<br>"Expo Paradigmas," Galeria Oops!, Santiago, Chile<br>FAXXI Art Fair, Santiago, Chile  |
| 2017 | Context Art Fair, Miami, FL<br>Art STGO Fair, Santiago, Chile<br>Sgt. Pepper 50 Year, Gallery in Transit, Santiago, Chile<br>FAXXI Art Fair, Santiago, Chile<br>Art Boca Raton, Miami, FL                             |      |  |

*With its reach extending to Zurich and Los Angeles, Artplex Gallery is a globally recognized contemporary art destination. The large art gallery curates art that seamlessly integrates design and luxury, brought to you by artists who redefine the boundaries of talent and technique.*

7377 Beverly Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90036  
art@artplexgallery.com | t. 323.452.9628  
www.artplexgallery.com  
Mon - Sat 10am - 6pm | Sun 12 - 6pm



*With its reach extending to Zurich and Los Angeles, Artplex Gallery is a globally recognized contemporary art destination. The large art gallery curates art that seamlessly integrates design and luxury, brought to you by artists who redefine the boundaries of talent and technique.*