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Food for thought.

Jaime de Córdoba Benedicto

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This sculpture came into being as a result of the magnificent painting by Hieronimus Bosch *The Garden of Earthly Delights* held in the Prado Museum.



The image of the torso of a man cut through at the waist allowing one to see the interior of a body which reveals narratives and which looks like an old cut up tree trunk took me back to the idea of accumulated knowledge. The idea of man as a coffer, as a baggage of thoughts, as a library seemed to be to be what I needed for the congress theme.

My cast iron sculpture is, similarly, reminiscent of chimneys where everything is consumed. Thoughts are consumed; ideas, like food, disappear leaving behind just their taste. In the open belly of my sculpture I have placed short phrases or single words like Australia, Spain, distance, food, city or other ideas present in the congress.

The persona is unstable yet solid and strong like iron, as are our ideas from which we feed ourselves. We all need to reaffirm our ideas even when we are aware that they are doubtful. The drawings match the proportional size of the vanished body which constantly feeds itself on ideas in an exercise of “In put” and “out put”. Thus our daily roles continuously enter and leave our bodies as a symbol of study, the only means by which we can feed our thoughts.



The sculpture, *Food for Thought*, is made of cast iron, expanded polystyrene and polyurethane foam. The paper that completes the sculpture contains drawings and writing which are replaceable and susceptible to varying changes in the order of reading.

Food for Thought 2005/ 2010
Cast Iron and drawings on paper.
185 x 158 x 48 cm.

Jaime de Córdoba Benedicto (Barcelona, 1961) is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Drawing at Barcelona University and also collaborates with the Department of Sculpture.

He has held a number of solo exhibitions in, among other places, Barcelona, the Hague, Madrid, Girona, Terrassa and Reus.

He has participated in international fairs and shows in Amsterdam, Brussels, Toulouse, London and other European and Spanish cities.

He has also been commissioned to do work for various public and private institutions in Catalunya and throughout Spain in conjunction with various teams of architects.



“Food with FIRE inside altar Reading”

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Esta escultura fue concebida siguiendo el referente magistral de Hieronimus Bosch en su famoso cuadro “El Jardín de las delicias” del Museo del Prado.



La imagen de un hombre cortado por la mitad dejando ver el interior de un cuerpo que muestra narraciones y que nos mira como un viejo tronco abierto me remitió a la idea de la sabiduría acumulada. El hombre como cofre, como equipaje de pensamientos, como cuerpo-biblioteca me pareció idóneo para el tema del Congreso.

Mi escultura fundida en hierro colado es, igualmente, recuerdo de las chimeneas donde todo se consume. Los pensamientos se consumen; las ideas, como los alimentos, desaparecen y dejan únicamente su sabor. En esa barriga abierta de mi escultura he dispuesto dibujos con breves frases o palabras sueltas como: Australia, España, lejanía, alimento, ciudad u otras ideas presentes en nuestros discursos durante el Congreso.

El personaje es inestable pero sólido y firme como el hierro, como nuestras propias ideas de las que nos nutrimos. Todos necesitamos reafirmarlas aún sabiendo que son dudosas.

Los dibujos completan métricamente la proporción del cuerpo desaparecido que se alimenta constantemente de pensamientos en un ejercicio de “In put” y “aut put”.

Entonces, nuestros papeles diarios entran y salen constantemente de nuestro cuerpo como símbolo del estudio, única salida para alimentar nuestro pensamiento.



La escultura Food for thought fue realizada en hierro fundido a partir de poliestireno expandido y espumas de poliuretano. El papel que la completa contiene en ocasiones dibujos y escritos que son reemplazables y susceptibles de cambios en el orden de lectura.



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Jaime de Córdoba Benedicto es profesor titular de la Universidad de Barcelona en el Departamento de Dibujo y profesor colaborador del Departamento de Escultura. Ha realizado numerosas exposiciones individuales en Barcelona, La Haya (Den Hague), Madrid, Girona, Terrassa y Reus. Ha participado en ferias Internacionales y expuesto colectivamente en: Ámsterdam, Bruselas, Toulouse, Londres y otras ciudades europeas y españolas. Ha realizado trabajos escultóricos para diversas Instituciones públicas en Catalunya e Instituciones privadas en toda España conjuntamente con varios equipos de arquitectos.





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