

Anglim Gilbert Gallery



Work in Progress at EDELO, San Cristobal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico

RIGO 23

Autonomous InterGalactic Space Program

January 14 - February 25, 2017

Reception: Saturday Jan. 14th, 6 - 8 pm

Anglim Gilbert Gallery at Minnesota Street Project
1275 Minnesota Street, San Francisco CA 94107

Tel: 415.433.2710

Gallery Hours: Tues - Sat 11 - 6pm.

Contact: gallery@anglimgilbertgallery.com

Anglim Gilbert Gallery is pleased to announce *Autonomous InterGalactic Space Program*, an exhibition of works by Rigo 23 in cooperation with artisans of Chiapas, Mexico. The collaborative sculptural installation is the result of the artist's invitation to the community of Zapatista artists and craftspeople to build a spaceship and imagine, with him, their own exploration of outer space.

First shown in Los Angeles at REDCAT, the downtown exhibition space for CalArts, the sculptural environment *Autonomous InterGalactic Space Program* creates an alternative world, a space program that embraces the ideals of exploration: sharing knowledge and goodwill in the implementation of a new social model.

The visitor-participant first passes through a painted mural on wood planks, a wall decorated with an interstellar landscape of flowers, people, birds and satellites. The interior environment is a passage leading past other artworks to a darkened room... and 'outer space', where a spaceship in the shape of a giant husk of corn floats in space also containing a hand built satellite.

"...what comes across most forcefully is not revolutionary fervor but a playful sense of whimsy that acknowledges that ideology, like, art, is abstract and imaginative. By using the language of space travel, Rigo 23 and his Zapatista collaborators lay claim to the future but also an opening of horizons. Their visions may seem outlandish, but they speak to the Zapatista project— a total reworking of the social and political system. In art, such visions—even space travel in a giant ear of corn— become a little more concrete and, perhaps, just a little less impossible." -

Sharon Mizota

"At REDCAT, Rigo 23's art collaboration with Zapatista's", Los Angeles Times, May 22, 2012

Rigo 23's art practice leads him to interaction with neighborhoods, local histories and politics producing a creative dialogue resulting in artworks that address social issues like the global economy, cultural definitions of countries, nationalities and cultural identities, and treatment of indigenous peoples by new governments. Born and raised in Portugal on the island of Madeira, Rigo lives in California. Educated at the San Francisco Art Institute (CFA) and Stanford University (MFA), he has exhibited internationally, including the Serralves Museum, Porto, Portugal (2011); the New Museum, New York (2009); Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Niterói, Brazil (2007), the Museum of Contemporary Art, Santiago, Chile (2000); and the University of California, Berkeley Art Museum (1999). He has been invited to numerous international art exhibitions including the Aichi Triennial, Japan (2013); the Auckland Triennial, New Zealand (2013); the Kochi Muziris Biennale, India (2012); the Shenzhen & Hong Kong Bi-city Biennale of Urbanism/Architecture (2009); the Lyon Biennale in Lyon, France (2009); the 4th Lyon Biennial (2006) and the California Biennial at the Orange County Museum of Art (2004).

The exhibition will take place at Anglim Gilbert Gallery's location at **Minnesota Street Project**, a new arts venue in the 'Dogpatch' arts district of San Francisco.