

**MEDIA RELEASE:**

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**Three Points in Spain: Works by Carlos Ciriza, Loli Fernández-Andrade, Javier de Villota**

July 11 – August 15, 2009

Opening Reception: Saturday, July 11, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

**Carlos Ciriza (Navarra) Loli Fernández-Andrade (Sevilla)  
Javier de Villota (Madrid)**

Deborah Colton Gallery is pleased to present Three Points in Spain: Works by Carlos Ciriza, Loli Fernandez-Andrade, Javier de Villota, a group exhibition featuring three Spanish artists in conjunction with ArtHouston and the 2009 Consular Forum honoring the Kingdom of Spain. Three Points in Spain opens Saturday, July 11, 2009 with a public reception with the artists from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

**CARLOS CIRIZA**

Carlos Ciriza was born in 1964 in Navarra, Spain. Ciriza has forged his artistic identity during the past twenty five years through a continuous search and investigation of the endless possibilities between matter, volume, gravity and balance. His influences include, Julio Gonzales, Chirino, Eduardo Chillida, and Henry Moore.

Ciriza specializes in the installation of large format sculptures. His exhibitions and works are integrated into their surrounding architectural, urban and natural environments. This exhibition will feature smaller scale works that follow the same pursuits as his larger sculptures. Like the larger sculptures, the smaller scale pieces stimulate their surroundings, creating sculpture not only in Ciriza's carved pieces but also in their entire environment. The sculptures investigate abstract themes of time, space, urbanization and the search for freedom from confinement. In keeping with 20<sup>th</sup> Century sculptural elements, Ciriza examines the roles of positive and negative space, as they relate to these themes.

Ciriza attended the School of Art in Pamplona, Spain. He was awarded the Navarra Prize in Sculpture by the Museum of Navarra in Spain. His work has been placed in various museums, parks, and public and private international collections. In the next few years, Ciriza will undertake the International Sculptural Corridor project, culminating in a series of calligraphic representations relating important and significant dates to the history of each location.

**LOLI FERNÁNDEZ-ANDRADE**

Loli Fernández-Andrade was born in Seville, Spain and lives and works in Houston, Texas. After a two year hiatus since her Master of Fine Arts thesis exhibition, Loli has returned to making art and has produced one of her most significant bodies of work. Drawing is one of her strongest skills, and her passion for it extends beyond the act of drawing and into a conceptually thought out process.

Influenced by Jorge Luis Borges, Loli uses his literature as a muse for her work. In "The Library of Babel," a short story by Borges, he describes the library as a universe consisting of endless spaces in which an infinite amount of books are contained. Reflecting a similar perspective, Loli describes the world as one multiplied ad infinitum. In any process everything starts and continues as one, and the counting goes on and so do the transformations.

Loli's work has always been inspired by the anonymous work of the humble people, and this specific body of work is inspired by embroidery. In a Zen-like exercise in tranquility, the artist traces lines upon lines and a world of estranged images resembling anything and nothing emerges. Each line is a series of infinite points, and with the addition of every line a shape is formed. Just like every man contributes a line to shape their world and these additions make our world. The first expression of a child, a pencil on a wall, determined the mediums Loli selected: graphite on board covered by plaster of paris and buffered and whitewashed to a smooth surface. The nature of the materials appeal to Loli: the opacity of the support, the unctuousness of the lead in the pencil sliding softly over it, leaving itself behind, transforming itself from a piece of graphite into a drawing.

Loli was awarded the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Scholarship and the Delores Mitchell Endowment Scholarship for her outstanding work. She is widely collected in Austria, Spain, France, Venezuela, and the United States. She has shown in Houston and in Venezuela. Loli studied Philosophy and Philology in Seville, Spain and has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and a Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture, both from the University of Houston.

## **JAVIER DE VILLOTA**

Javier de Villota is an important Spanish artist, born in Madrid and now based in both Houston and Madrid. He is devoted to issues of human freedom and human rights. Villota has gained international acclaim for his highly expressionistic paintings and explosive installations.

Villota's career as an artist has extended over 40 years and has included many stylistic phases ranging from post-impressionism to abstract painting, and employing such experimental materials as plastic forms. Villota views himself as a communicator whose purpose is to connect the spectator to the psychological and social aspects of man in his greatest state of awareness and sentiment. This artist from Madrid pays homage to his heritage through his use of the Abstract Expressionist style, influenced by Francisco Goya. His recent Spring 2009 solo show at The Station Museum of Contemporary Art reflected this influence. At the same time, Villota draws influence from more modern artists in his works on canvas; the chaotic surface and stimulating palette are very reminiscent of Cy Twombly and Jean-Michel Basquiat.

Villota is an architect and a self taught artist and sculptor. From 1970-1977 he worked as a professor at his alma mater the Higher Technical School Of Architecture, Madrid and at The Fine Arts School of Madrid. In 2001 he had a retrospective exhibition at the Centro Cultural de La Villa. In this exhibition a selection of his most recent work, as well as some notable pieces retained in the artist's personal collection will be presented.

Deborah Colton Gallery is founded on being an innovative showcase for ongoing presentation and promotion of strong historical and visionary contemporary artists world-wide, whose diverse practices include painting, works on paper, sculpture, video, photography, performance and conceptual future media installations. The gallery aspires to provide a forum through connecting Texas, national and international artists to make positive change.