

# HUXLEY-PARLOUR

3-5 Swallow Street, London, W1B 4DE / gallery@huxleyparlour.com

José Gabriel Fernández  
*Selected Works 2010-2019*

13 March - 6 April 2019

The first UK solo exhibition of works by Venezuelan artist, José Gabriel Fernández will consist of thirteen sculptures and reliefs, including recent works from his on-going series *Erotes* and *Lingam* as well as new work made this year.

Constructed from various materials, including plywood, resin, fibre-glass-reinforced gypsum and MDF, Fernández's works, devoid of colour, play with concepts of neutrality and space with the aim of constructing differing spatial relationships between the works of art and the viewer. The sculptures suggest a lightness and softness through the use of organic lines and scale, and the relief works manipulate solids and voids through the use of light and shadow.



*Erotillo, 2010*

'Quiet but potent with energy, these shapes and forms penetrate, modulate, and mutate from one to the other, from negative to positive, from repose to motion in a sensuous inter-dialogue.'

José Gabriel Fernández

Fernández's practice is influenced by the history of Modernism in Latin America, specifically in Venezuela. His works are preoccupied with ideas of geometry, line and form in relation to spatial aesthetics and concepts of time and rhythm. His earliest works, the series *Erotes* and *Lingam* explore theories of gender, encouraging reflections on the body. They are a reinterpretation of archetypal expressions of eroticism and desire in the Avant-Garde movements of the twentieth century. His works also reference earlier moments from art history, for example, visual perspective in Italian Renaissance architecture, inspired by his childhood in Florence, as well as ancient architectural motifs such as Caryatids - the sculpted female figures that serve as architectural supports in place of a column or a pillar.

Born in Caracas, Venezuela in 1957, Fernández earned a Higher Diploma in Fine Art from the Slade School of Fine Art in 1988. His work has been exhibited at galleries and museums internationally in both North and South America as well as Europe, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, P.S.1 Contemporary Arts Center, New York, the Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro and the Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid.

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