César Paternosto  
b. 1931 La Plata, Argentina - lives in Segovia, Spain

After beginning his career working in an informalist mode followed by a brief period of lyrical figuration, Paternosto began creating his first artworks based on geometric abstraction in the early 1960s. Before the end of this decade, Paternosto’s formal and theoretical explorations led him to push beyond the very boundaries of the medium of painting. Leaving the surface of the canvas blank, Paternosto moved the emphasis of his artworks to their outer edges, converting his paintings into objects and destroying the inherited tradition of only viewing paintings frontally. Since this breakthrough, Paternosto has remained on the vanguard of abstraction in both Latin America and New York, where he lived for over four decades.

In addition to his career as a painter, Paternosto has studied Pre-Columbian art with academic rigor. This expertise has not only influenced his artistic practices, but has also led Paternosto to assume scholarly and curatorial roles, including his notable work producing the internationally exhibited show, *Abstraction: The Amerindian Paradigm*. In 2005, Paternosto moved to Segovia, Spain, where a major retrospective of his works had been celebrated a year previously at the Esteban Vicente Museum of Contemporary Art. Paintings by Paternosto are included in such prestigious collections as the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid; the Kunstmuseum Bern, Switzerland; and the Städtisches Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach, Germany, among many others.

**Collections**

The Museum of Modern Art, New York  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.  
Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo, New York  
Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas, Austin  
Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, CIFO, Miami, Florida  
Peréz Art Museum, Miami, Florida  
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid  
Baronesa Carmen Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection, Madrid  
Norman Foster Collection, Madrid  
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Esteban Vicente, Segovia, Spain  
Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo, CAAC, Seville, Spain  
Instituto Cervantes, Alcalá de Henares, Spain  
Alberto Jiménez-Arellano Alonso Foundation, University of Valladolid, Spain  
Etzold Collection, Städtisches Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach, Germany  
Kunstmuseum Bern, Switzerland  
Denise René, Paris  
Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Museo de Arte Moderno, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Museo Provincial de Bellas Artes, La Plata, Argentina  
Museo de Bellas Artes, Caracas, Venezuela  
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Sofía Imber, Caracas, Venezuela  
Museo de Arte Moderno Fundación Soto, Ciudad Bolívar, Venezuela  
Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection, Caracas  
Centro Wifredo Lam, La Habana, Cuba
Main Solo Exhibitions

2018  César Paternosto, Tensiones lineales y espacios, igallery, Islas Baleares, Spain
2018-2017  César Paternosto, Obras Recientes, Guillermo de Osma Galería, Madrid, Spain
2015  César Paternosto: Hacia una pintura objetual, El Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid, Spain

2015  El silencio de las líneas, María Calcaterra Galería, Buenos Aires, Argentina
2015  César Paternosto New Work, Galerie Denise René, Rive Gauche, Paris, France;
2015  César Paternosto, Dan Galería, Sao Paulo, Brazil

2012  César Paternosto: Painting and Architecture, Durban/Segnini Gallery, Miami, Florida

2010  Pintura: la visión integral, Galería Guillermo de Osma, Madrid
2008  Recent works, Galería Jorge Mara-La Ruche, Buenos Aires
2007  Painting and Sculpture, 1970-2008, Durban/Segnini Gallery, Miami, Florida

2007  César Paternosto, Artur Ramón Contemporani, Barcelona
2006  Marginalidades, desplazamientos y ritmos (Marginalities, Displacements, Rhythms), Galería Guillermo de Osma, Madrid
2006  Silencio y desplazamientos (Silence and Displacements), Galería Manuel Ojeda, Las Palmas, Gran Canaria

2005  Marginalidades, desplazamientos, hilos de agua, contrapuntos (Marginalities, Displacements, Water Threads)
2005  Dan Galería, São Paulo, Brasil

2004  Retrospective at Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Esteban Vicente, Segovia, Spain
2004  Marginalidades, desplazamientos, hilos de agua, contrapuntos (Marginalities, Displacements, Water Threads),
2004  Galería La Ruche, Buenos Aires

2002  Recent works, Galería La Ruche, Buenos Aires
2002  Dis solving: Threads of Water and Light, with Cecilia Vicuña, The Drawing Center, New York
2002  Into Union: Cecilia Vicuña & Cesar Paternosto, Latincollector, New York

2001  Recent works, Cecilia de Torres Ltd., New York

1999  Galería Rubbers, Buenos Aires
1997  Galería Rubbers, Buenos Aires
1995  Cecilia de Torres Ltd., New York
1993  Galería Durban/César Segnini, Caracas, Venezuela
1989  Galería Ruth Benzacar, Buenos Aires
1987  Retrospective, Fundación San Telmo, Buenos Aires. Travels to Museo Provincial de Bellas Artes, La Plata, Argentina
1986  Works on Paper, 1961-1986, Foro de Arte Contemporáneo, Ciudad de Mexico Travels to Museo Rayo,
Roldanillo, Colombia

1984  Mary-Anne Martin Fine Arts, New York
     Galería del Retiro, Buenos Aires

1982  Fuji Television Gallery, Tokyo, Japan


1979  Galería Sandiego, Bogotá, Colombia

1978  Galería Artemúltiple, Buenos Aires

1977  Galería Artemúltiple, Buenos Aires

1976  Galerie Denise René, New York

1974  Galerie Denise René, Paris

1973  Galerie Denise René, New York

1972  Galerie Denise René-Hans Mayer, Düsseldorf, Germany

1971  Galería Carmen Waugh, Buenos Aires

1970  AM Sachs Gallery, New York

1968  AM Sachs Gallery, New York

1966  Galería Bonino, Buenos Aires

1965  Centro por la Libertad de la Cultura, Buenos Aires

1964  Galería Lirolay, Buenos Aires

1962  Galería Rubbers, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Group Exhibitions

2019-2018  *American Geometries, from Mexico to Tierra del Fuego*, Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, France

2018  *Pensar en abstracto*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Buenos Aires, Argentina

2016  *Geométricos*, Tiempos Modernos, Madrid, Spain
     *Searching for Form*, Leon Tovar Gallery (Downtown), New York
     *Latin American Masters*, Leon Tovar Gallery (Upper East Side), New York
     *La Vida Secreta de las Cosas*, Galería Rubbers, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2015  *Abstraction and Constructivism: Continuity and Breakdown of Latin American Modernity*, Durban/Segnini Gallery, Miami, Florida
     *Face to Face*, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York

     *La invención concreta. Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid.
     *Order, Chaos and the Space Between. Contemporary Latin American Art from the Diane and Bruce Halle Collection*, Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, Arizona
     *Moving: Norman Foster on Art*, Carré d’Art, Nîmes, France
     *Les sud-américains à Paris*, Galerie Denise René Espace Marais, Paris

2012  *Nine Latin American Masters*, Durban-Segnini Gallery, Miami, FL
Abstracción y Movimiento, Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo, CAAC, Sevilla

2011
Cold America. Geometric Abstraction in Latin America (1934-1973), Fundación Juan March, Madrid
De Picasso a Richard Serra: 20 años de la Galería Guillermo de Osma, Museo de la Pasión, Valladolid
Homenagem2, Dan Galeria, São Paulo

2010
Bright Geometry, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
Latitudes: Maestros latinoamericanos en la Colección FEMSA, Sala de exposiciones BBVA, Madrid
Iman: New York, Fundacion PROA, Buenos Aires

2008
High Times, Hard Times: New York Painting 1967-1975, Neue Galerie, Graz, Austria; Viaja al ZKM in Karlsruhe, Germany
Forma, línea, gesto, escritura, MuVIM (Museo de la Imagen y la Modernidad) Valencia, Spain

2007
Short Distance to Now, Galerie Kienzle & Gmeiner, Berlin, Germany
Short Distance to Now, Galerie Thomas Flor, Dusseldorf, Germany

2006

2005
Works ON & OF Paper - Modern and Contemporary, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York
Extreme Abstraction, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, N.Y.

2004
Light and Atmosphere, Miami Art Museum, Miami

2003
Geometría Sensível-25 Years later, Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York

2002

2001
Abstraction: The Amerindian Paradigm, Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels, Belgium; Travels to IVAM, Valencia, Spain
Modernism in Montevideo and Buenos Aires, 1930s-1960s, Cecilia de Torres Ltd., New York

2000
Square Roots, Cecilia de Torres Ltd., New York

1999
Art construit, art cinétique d’Amérique Latine, Galerie Denise René, Paris
Argentina Siglo XX, Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires
Peintures et Sculptures d’Amérique Latine; Collection of the Museo de Bellas Artes de Caracas, Biarritz Festivale, France

1998
Next to Nothing/Minimalist Works from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Anderson Gallery, Buffalo, N.Y.
North and South Connected-An Abstraction of the Americas, Cecilia de Torres Ltd., New York

1997
Bienal Mercosul, Porto Alegre, Brazil

1996
MARCO Award, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Monterrey, Mexico

1995
65 Years of Constructivist Wood: 1930-1995, Cecilia de Torres Ltd., New York
MARCO Award, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Monterrey, Mexico

1993
Museum of Modern Art, New York
1992  América, Bride of the Sun, Royal Fine Arts Museum, Antwerp, Belgium
Latin American Artists of the Twentieth Century, opens at Expo’92, Sevilla, Spain; travels to Musée National d’Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany

1991  The School of the South: the Taller Torres-García and its Legacy; opens at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; travels to University of Texas, Austin, Museo Tamayo, Ciudad de México and Bronx Museum, New York

1990  The Decade Show, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

1989  III Bienal, La Habana, Cuba

The School of the South: the Taller Torres-García and its Legacy; opens at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; travels to University of Texas, Austin, Museo Tamayo, Ciudad de México and Bronx Museum, New York

1987  Latin American Artists in New York Since 1970, Archer M. Huntington Gallery (today Jack S. Blanton Museum) University of Texas, Austin
Fifty Years of Collecting: An Anniversary Selection-Paintings since World War II”, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York

1984  I Bienal, La Habana, Cuba


1977  Arte Actual de Iberoamérica, Instituto de Cultura Hispánica, Madrid, Spain
Lines of Vision: Recent Latin American Drawings, Center for Interamerican Relations, (Americas Society), New York

1976  Mono+Bichromie, Galerie Denise René, Paris
Gallery artists, Gimpel & Hanover Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland

1975  7`eme Festival International de la Peinture, Cagnes-sur-Mer, France

1974  Cruz-Diez, Le Parc, Paternosto, Simón, Soto, Tomasello, Galería Aele, Madrid, Spain

1973  Tropic of Cancer/Tropic of Capricorn, Art Gallery of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass
Program-Accident-System, Städtisches Museum Abteiberg Mönchengladbach, Germany

1971  I Bienal Americana de Artes Gráficas, Cali, Colombia
Argentinische Kunst der Gegenwart, Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland

1970  Il Bienal Coltejer, Medellín, Colombia
Twelve Artists from Latin America, John and Mable Ringling Museum, Sarasota, Florida

1968  Beyond Geometry, Center for Interamerican Relations (Americas Society), New York

1967  The 1960’s: Painting and Sculpture from the Museum Collection, Museum of Modern Art, New York

1966  National Award, Instituto Di Tella, Buenos Aires, Argentina
III Bienal de Arte Americano, Córdoba, Argentina

1965  Latin American Art Since Independence, Yale University Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut

1961  Arte Nuevo, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Selected Bibliography


“César Paternosto”, in *Blanton Museum of Art: Latin American Collection*; ed. by Gabriel Pérez-Barreiro; Blanton Museum of Art, Austin: The University of Texas at Austin, 2006.


Publications

Letter to the Editor, Artforum, April 1969


Letter to the Editor, Artforum, November 1975


“Escultura abstracta de los incas”, in Boletín del Centro de Investigaciones Históricas y Estéticas, Facultad de Arquitectura y Urbanismo, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas, December, 1985

“Contrastes de Forma: pioneros ignorados”, Arte en Colombia, No.33 Bogotá, ‘87


Books


PATERNOSTO, by César Paternosto; Madrid: TF Editores, 2007

White/Red: César Paternosto, with essays by Lucy R. Lippard, Ricardo Martín-Crosa and Toshiaki Minemura, and a chronology by C.P. New York: Cecilia de Torres, Ltd., New York, 2001


Piedra abstracta, la escultura inca: una visión contemporánea, illustrated with photography and drawings by the author; 206 pp., Fondo de Cultura Económica, Mexico-Buenos Aires, 1989

Curatorship


2001 Abstraction: The Amerindian Paradigm opens at the Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels; travels to IVAM Centre Julio González, Valencia, Spain. Writes main essay and edits the catalogue with contributions by Lucy R. Lippard, Mary Frame, Cecilia de Torres y Valentín Ferdinán

Lectures
1970  Invited to speak to Kynaston McShyne’s students at the School of Visual Arts, New York.

      Introduced by Prof. Nicolás Sánchez Albornoz
      “Abstract Sculpture of the Incas”, Center for Latin American Studies, Columbia University, New York;
      Introduced by Prof. Herbert Klein

1982  “Stone Sculpture of the Inca”, Bridgestone Museum, Tokyo, Japan
      “Stone Sculpture of the Inca”, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Syracuse University, New York

1984  “El arte precolombino en el arte del siglo veinte”, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina

1986  “El arte precolombino en el arte del siglo veinte”, en el Museo Carrillo-Gil, Ciudad de Mexico

      “The Rio de la Plata Avantgarde and Torres-García’s Work,” panel “The School of Torres-García and the Work
      of Augusto Torres,” Americas Society, New York
      “El arte precolombino en el arte del siglo veinte”, four lectures at the Centro de Estudios Históricos,
      Antropológicos y Sociales Sudamericanos (CEHASS), Buenos Aires, Argentina

1991  “Re-Imagining Torres-García’s Vision, A Reading of Metaphysics of Amerindian Prehistory,” paper at the
      symposium “Inverted Map: The School of the South,” Archer M. Huntington Art Gallery, The University of
      Texas at Austin, Texas

1992  “Joaquín Torres-García and the Hemispheric Sources of Abstraction,” paper at the symposium “Crosscurrents
      of Modernism- Four Latin American Pioneers,” Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.

1998  “Andean Textiles and Stonework as Language-Resonances in our Century,” sponsored by the Friends of
      Ethnic Art, at the California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, California
      “Abstraction as Meaning,” Kunstmuseum, Bern, Switzerland

2008  Takes part at the symposium on “Painting”, course on “Transformaciones-Arte y estética desde 1960”,
      Centro de Andalus de Arte Contemporáneo, Seville, Spain

**Filmography**

Cultural program devoted to the work of Cesar Paternosto; 30m., Fuji Television Channel, Tokyo, aired February 7,
1982

*Schone Kunsten, Ver Meg Buenos Aires, BRTN*, 60 m. Directed by Jef Cornelis. Documents conversation between Víctor
Grippo and César Paternosto; others. TV film, associated to the exhibition *América, Bride of the Sun*, Royal Fine Arts.