



nara roesler

carlos bunga
fragments for a
cartography of return

nara roesler new york
opening september 11, 2025
exhibition sep 11 – oct 18

carlos bunga
fragments for
a cartography
of return

Nara Roesler presents *Fragments for a Cartography of Return*, a solo exhibition by Carlos Bunga (Porto, 1976), an artist known for his subtle, poetic, radical investigation into the metamorphic materiality of art as shelter, model, performative mapping, prototype. Bunga's admirable mastery of all mediums serves as an effective means to address a nomadic practice characterized by his fascination for potential forms. The subtle ambiguity of his architectural sculptures (models) and his paintings on cardboard and tapestries places most of his works on the critical interval between that which has been and that which could be: past and future, ruin and prototype, absence and utopia.

This poetic uncertainty informs Bunga's art as a nomadic practice. Contrary to the sedentary, as Deleuze and Guattari had stated long ago, the nomad does not go from one point to another. It is the trajectory, not the origin nor the destination, that matters for the nomadic. In that sense Carlos Bunga does not stop mapping, marking ways of passage, emphasizing the porosity of art. Maps to nowhere, from nowhere. Atopic cartography.

For this exhibition at Nara Roesler, Bunga will set a project in three phases or 'stations': he will intervene in the large window of the gallery with an installation combining paintings, found objects, and sculptures composing an "assemblage" of traces, opened towards the outer space. A first gallery, upon entering the exhibition space, will be focused on his signature 'maps': sensuous, richly textured paintings on cardboard and fabrics. As useless cartographies, these works open the space towards an experience of disorienting passages and expectation. "The nomad -has written Deleuze and Guattari- knows how to wait, his patience is infinite." Finally Bunga will occupy the largest room of the gallery with a monumental painting covering the entire floor of the exhibition space with light hanging sculptures and found objects. The beholders are invited to walk through this floor painting and to wander around the suspended sculptures that Bunga calls *Casulos* (Cocoons), larvae-shaped bodies, sculptures yet to become, as if the entire experience was a way to return towards the potential, to the imminence of forms.

Carlos Bunga
Nara Roesler NY, 2025



exhibition view
*Fragments for a
Cartography of Return*
Nara Roesler New York



Construcción
pictórica # 24 w, 2017
latex and glue on
cardboard and wood
200 x 150 x 10 cm
78.7 x 59.1 x 3.9 in





New Maps (Archipelago 1), 2025
PVC glue, debris and latex paint on carpet
426,7 x 375,9 x 138,4 cm
168 x 148 x 54.5 in





New Maps (Archipelago 2), 2025
PVC glue, debris and latex paint on carpet
396,2 x 193 x 12,7 cm
156 x 76 x 5 in











exhibition view
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Cocoon skin 2, 2025
latex
67,3 x 17,8 x 20,3 cm
26.5 x 7 x 8 in



Cocoon skin 1, 2025
latex
73,7x 15,2 x 19,1 cm
29 x 6 x 7.5 in





exhibition view
I am a Nomad, 2024
Suiça





*Free standing
painting # 63, 2023*
PVC glue and latex
paint on blanket
82 x 50 x 4 cm
32.3 x 19.7 x 1.6 in

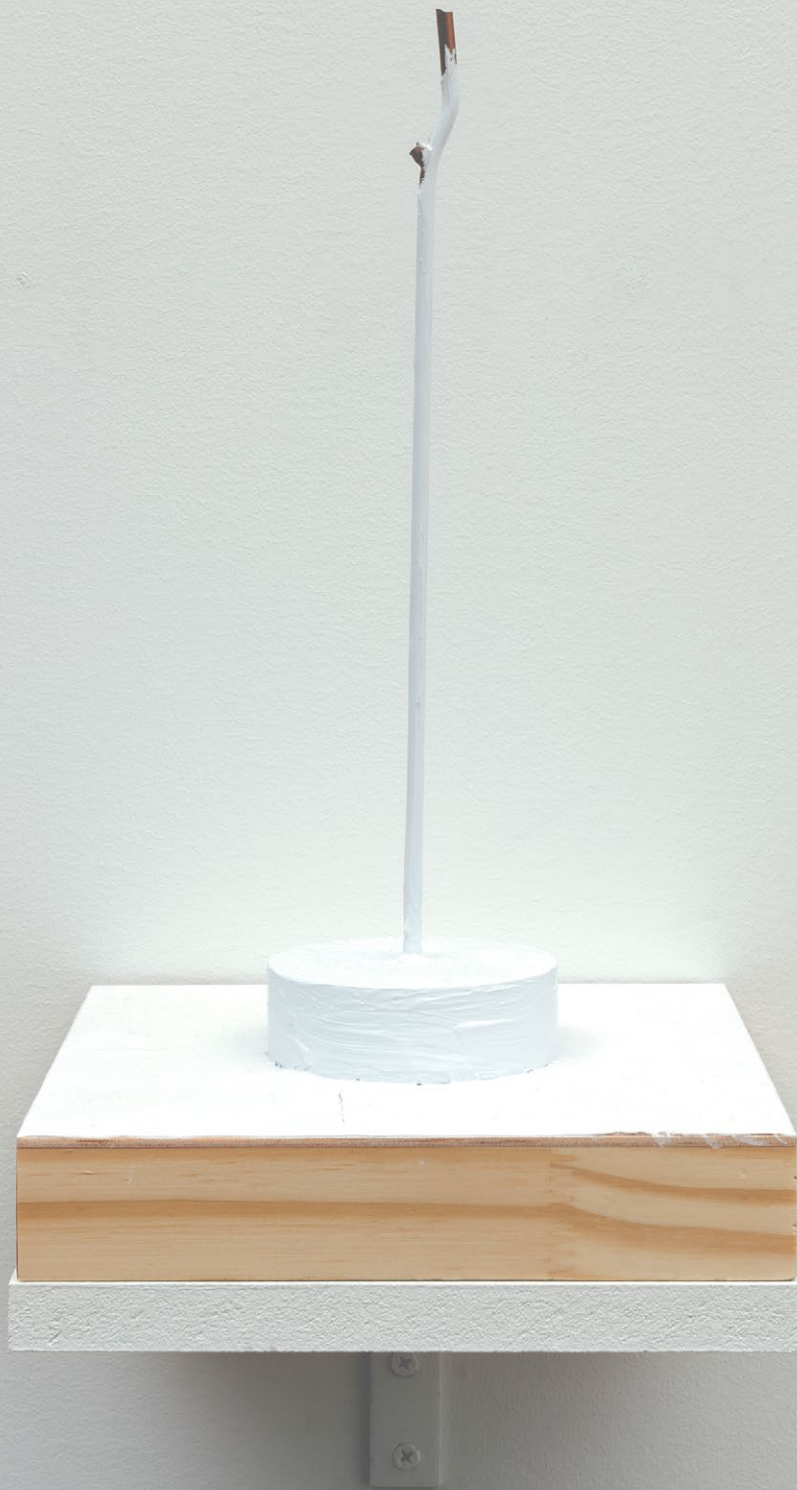


New maps # 12, 2025
PVC glue and latex paint on carpet
100 x 150 cm
39.4 x 59.1 in





exhibition view *Performar la naturaleza*, 2024, Spain

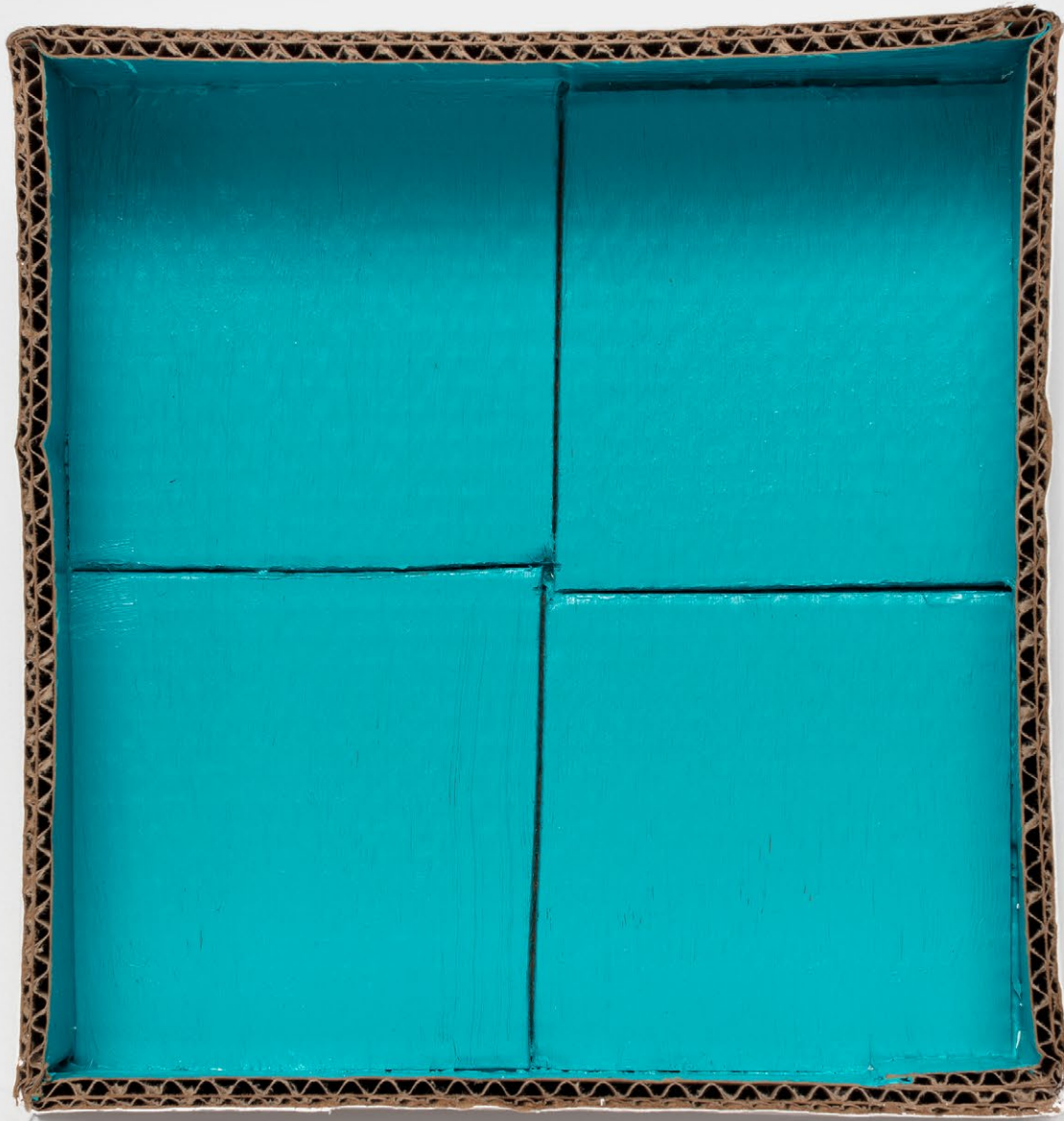


Absence #1, 2017
acrylic and steel on wood
33 x 19,5 x 19,5 cm
13 x 7.7 x 7.7 in

Absence # 2, 2017
acrylic and steel on wood
16 x 30 x 30 cm
6.3 x 11.8 x 11.8 in



Intersection Series # 2, 2015
latex and glue on
cardboard and wood
25,4 x 24,4 x 7,6 cm
10 x 9.6 x 3 in







Intersection
Series # 5, 2016
oil on cardboard
17,8 x 17,8 x 6,4 cm
7 x 7 x 2.5 in





nara roesler

new york são paulo rio de janeiro

exhibition view
*Fragments for a
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Nara Roesler New York

carlos bunga
fragments for a cartography of
curated by luis perez-oramas
september – october



Suspended Frames, 2020
latex paint and glue on frame
169 x 36 x 10 cm
66.5 x 14.2 x 3.9 in



Absence # 3, 2017
acrylic and steel on wood
16 x 20 x 20 cm
6.3 x 7.9 x 7.9 in



Absence # 4, 2017
acrylic and steel on wood
13,5 x 22 x 16 cm
5.3 x 8.7 x 6.3 in



Absence # 5, 2017
acrylic and steel on wood
32 x 27 x 22 cm
12.6 x 10.6 x 8.7 in



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Cocoon # 6, 2024
latex paint and glue on
paper-mâché and wood
140 x 50 cm
55,1 x 19,7 in



Cocoon # 8, 2024
latex paint and glue on
paper-mâché and wood
160 x 60 cm
63 x 23,6 in





Corner. Cocoon # 1, 2013
acrylic and glue on papier-
mâché with cotton thread
37,5 x 11,5 cm
14.8 x 4.5 in



Corner. Cocoon # 4, 2013
acrylic and glue on papier-
mâché with cotton thread
14 x 9 x 7,5 cm
5.5 x 3.5 x 3 in



Corner. Cocoon # 2, 2013
acrylic and glue on cardboard
with cotton thread
55 x 11 x 4,5 cm
21.7 x 4.3 x 1.8 in



Corner. Cocoon # 3, 2013
acrylic and glue on cardboard
with cotton thread
10,3 x 4 x 3 cm
4.1 x 1.6 x 1.2 in



Corner. Cocoon # 6, 2013
acrylic and glue on cardboard
with cotton thread
37 x 7 x 7 cm
14.6 x 2.8 x 2.8 in





exhibition view
I am a Nomad, 2024
Switzerland

Corner. Cocoon, 2013
acrylic paint and glue on
paper-mâché with cotton thread
21,5 x 10,5 x 9 cm
8.5 x 4.1 x 3.5 in

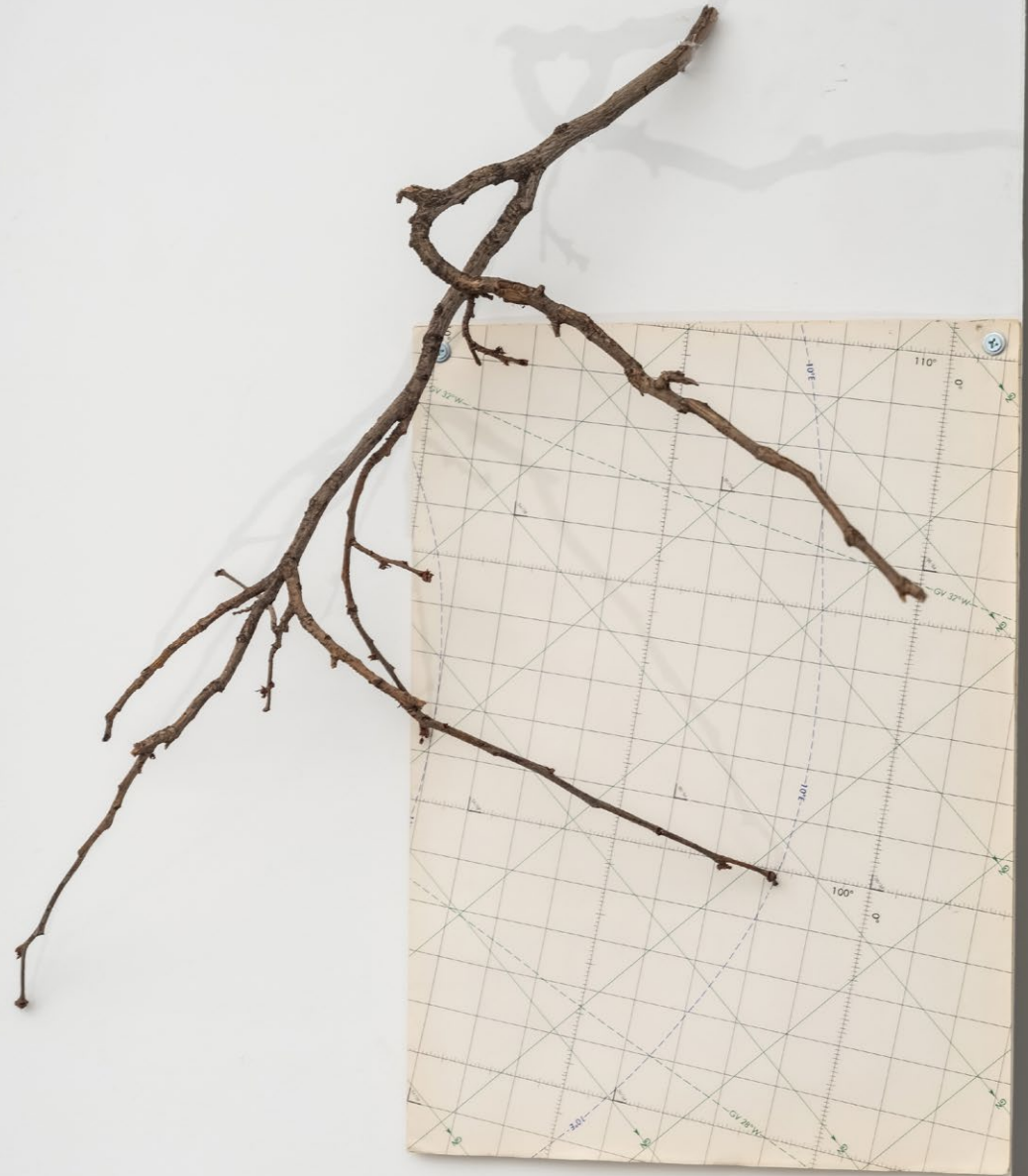




Ruler, 2025
latex paint on
assisted readymade
91 x 0,25 x 2,75 cm
35.8 x 0.1 x 1.1 in



Path over map, 2025
found object and
assisted readymade
51,1 x 45 x 20,3 cm
20.1 x 17.7 x 8 in



Granada e Drapery, 2025
pomegranate and 2 handdyed fabrics
9 x 7,5 x 8 cm | 73 x 26,6 x 15 cm
3.5 x 3 x 3.1 | 20.7 x 10.5 x 5.9 in





Path 1, 2025
found object
17,5 x 6,5 x 4,25 cm
6.9 x 2.6 x 1.7 in



Carlos Bunga in the exhibition
Nara Roesler NY, USA, 2025

carlos bunga

b. 1976, Porto, Portugal

lives and works in Barcelona, Spain

Carlos Bunga creates process-oriented works in various formats: sculptures, paintings, drawings, performances, video, and above all in situ installations, that refer to and intervene in their immediate architectural surroundings.

While often using ordinary, unassuming materials such as packing cardboard and adhesive tape, Bunga's work involves a highly developed degree of aesthetic care and delicacy, as well as a conceptual complexity derived from the inter-relationship between doing and undoing, between unmaking and remaking, between the micro and the macro, between investigation and conclusion. Straddling the divide between sculpture and painting, Bunga's deceptively delicate works are characterized by an intense study of the combination of color and materiality, while at the same time emphasize the performative aspect of the creative act.

Bunga's works on paper, which are closely related to his sculptures and installations, often involve overlays, whether of compositional elements in the paintings or sheets of translucent paper in the drawings. The analytic/descriptive result, like a photographic double-exposure, mimics the dual experience of memory and imagination underlying the sculpture.

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selected solo exhibitions

- *Habitar Juntos*, Nara Roesler, São Paulo, Brazil (2024)
- *Carlos Bunga: Performing Nature*, Centre d'Art Bomba Gens, Valencia, Spain (2024)
- *Reassembling Spilt Light: An Immersive Installation*. Sarasota Art Museum, Sarasota, USA (2023)
- *Against the extravagance of desire*, Palácio de Cristal, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain (2022)
- *Something Necessary and Useful*, Whitechapel, London, UK (2020)
- *Carlos Bunga, Architecture of Life*, Museu de Arte, Arquitetura e Tecnologia (MAAT), Lisbon, Portugal (2020)
- *Capella, La Capella dels Àngels*, Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA), Barcelona, Spain (2015)

selected group exhibitions

- *Manifesta 15*, Barcelona, Spain (2024)
- *Coreografias do impossível*. 35th São Paulo Biennial, São Paulo, Brazil (2023)
- *Meia Noite*, Bienal de Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal (2021)
- *Gigantisme*, Pôle d'Art Contemporain de Dunkerque, Dunkerque, France (2019)
- *Quote/Unquote. Entre apropriação e diálogo*, Museu de Arte, Arquitetura e Tecnologia (MAAT), Lisbon, Portugal (2017)
- *The State of the Art of Architecture*, Chicago Architecture Biennial, Chicago, USA (2015)

selected collections

- Fundação Serralves, Porto, Portugal
- Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, USA
- Museu Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal
- Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA), Barcelona, Spain
- Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, USA
- Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection, New York, USA
- Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
- Pérez Art Museum, Miami, USA
- The Museum of Modern Art MoMA, New York, USA

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