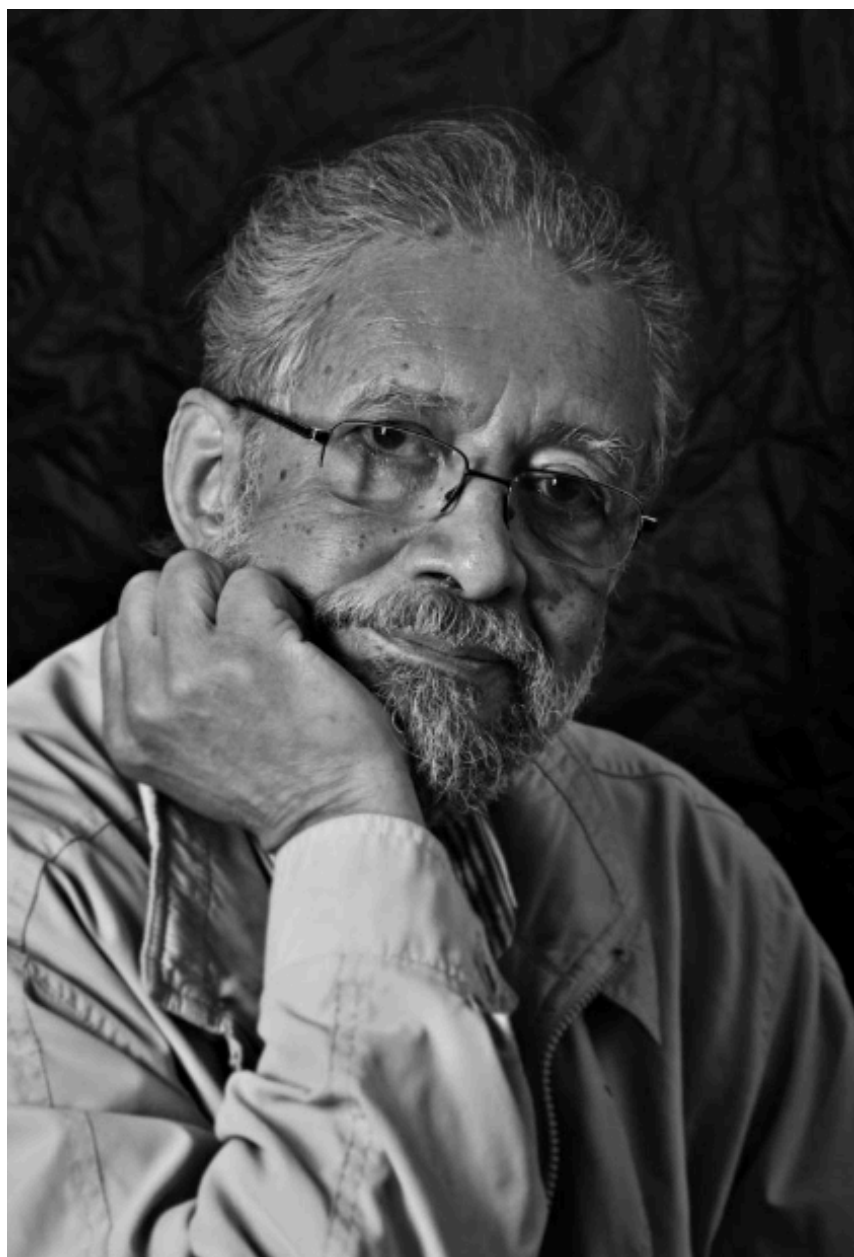


mark hachem
New York | Paris | Beirut

DARIO PEREZ FLORES

mark hachem
New York | Paris | Beirut



BIOGRAPHY

Dario Perez Flores (born in 1936 in Valera, Venezuela). He studied at the School of Fine Art in Valencia, Venezuela. He made abstract sculptures from recuperated metal. In the 50s, he studied at the University of Caracas. He entered the university to study literature, but he arranged to have access to the metal workshop at nights and on the weekends. He concentrated on making abstract sculptures that are notably a series of chrome-plated mobile half-spheres that were exposed at Studio Actual in Caracas.

After that, thanks to a scholarship, he moved to France where he chose to study Fine Art at the University of Vincennes. In collaboration with an Italian workman, he created a series of geometric sculptures in Plexiglass that were exhibited in Switzerland in 1972. He also participated in an exhibition at the Venezuelan Embassy in Paris with Cruz-Diez.

He then created the famous mobiles where, by means of an engine system, black and white horizontal and vertical lines are moved on a black background. Then the optical movement replaces the engines at the same time that the black and white gives place to the color.

It is the period of the Prochromatic: colored verticals at the front of which are placed fine iron rods that are supposed to materialize the vanishing points.

The Dynamic Chromatic series is a new decisive step since it fractures the painted space. The work is composed by several geometric pieces (canvas mounted on wooden forms). Most of the time, a central rectangle surrounded by two triangles. A painting that invites the sculpture where the fragmentation and the resulting voids allows the work to be more integrated with the wall that supports it. Moreover, these ruptures integrates and gives rhythm to the optical vibrations at the same time. The last works in his series show an evolution: even if his works are still radically geometric, they tend to show a certain de-materialization, causing the color and vibrations to float.

Winner of important prizes such as the Orden Arturo Michelena in Valencia, Venezuela, Perez-Flores is widely exhibited in Venezuela and France. His works are represented in prestigious public and private collections around the world such as the Museo de Bellas Artes in Caracas, Venezuela, the Museum of Modern Art of the City of Paris, the Apollo Center in Lausanne, Switzerland and the Kunzeslau and Waldenbuch Museums in Germany.

Rhythm, colour ... vibrations divines of Perez Flores

Art should be intellectual vastness and liberty of imagination.

Approaching the work of Dario Perez Flores we are seduced by this enormous vastness. All his artistic life is dedicated to his inspiring work, the strict compositions, results of a long evolutionary process, pursuing the lively colors in contrast to the most radical ones – black and white.

Undoubtedly his singular work classifies him as one of the masters of the Latin-American movement of constructivist abstraction and kinetic art, originated in Paris. It shows the maturity and strength of his personal artistic discourse, which has never ceased evolving since the late seventies. To really conceive the conceptual process in his work we need to understand not only his artistic career – which commenced in Venezuela in 1961 – but also the influence of the community of foreign artists – mainly from Argentina and Venezuela – uncovering new artistic dimensions in Paris in the fifties.

His strong academic formation at the school of fine arts in Valence/Venezuela led Perez Flores to participating in fairs of fine arts and experimental sculpture in Venezuela, his home country. Between 1961 and 1970 he exclusively made sculptures in Plexiglas with mobile elements, not colored. This group of work accompanied him to Paris, and is reflected in his early kinetic works till 1976, the year when his work first met colour.

When Perez Flores settled in Paris in 1970 the kinetic and geometrical movement had already been well established by a group of Latin Americans in the entourage of Denise Rene and her gallery : LeParc, Sobrino, Soto, Cruz Diez among others. Their works were aiming at a synthesis of the arts, geometrical forms playing with reflection, light and shadow, real agitation by either wind or electricity or virtual movement in the spectator's perception.

mark hachem

Elements merged in the artistic universe of these artists: color and movement. It was the beginning of a creative explosion, and originating and developing the optical – kinetic art. This is the context of the long and deep research of Perez Flores. He studied the scientific “Farbenlehre” intensively, the theories of the Bauhaus and De Stijl. Based on his profound knowledge he started his solitary artistic career while maintaining his good relations with other members of the group.

For more than twenty years Perez Flores work has evolved remarkably. His search of aesthetic events never faded vis-à-vis the inconstant character of color, line, plain or space and their ambiguousness. The guiding line to his work is not only the overwhelming presence of color but his special technique – in design as well as in painting - : he creates a very delicate tissue of lines, mysteriously appearing giving shape to the basic material and the pigments. In the middle of the eighties Perez Flores thus started the creation of a large series of pictures and reliefs called “Prochromatiques”, in which the vertical elements are dominating, confirming his interest in color – that originates back to 1976. These works prove not only his research in movement but in harmony of progressive color degradation. The spatial sensation of the dynamic chromatics can be even more expressive than their kinetic effects.

Nevertheless “Tiges” – fine metallic strings- installed in front of the vibrant colors of the rainbow on the background canvas, integrating or opposing to the suite of these, achieve within a moving spectator front of a totally new sensation of optical fascination. The spectator fulfills the artist’s work in a playful gesture.

Obviously the creative ideas of Perez Flores derive from constantly reflecting existing links between the creating and the perceiving act. For the artist it has always been important not to leave the spectator in a passive, simply watching position but to make him participate in the realization of the aesthetic preparation.

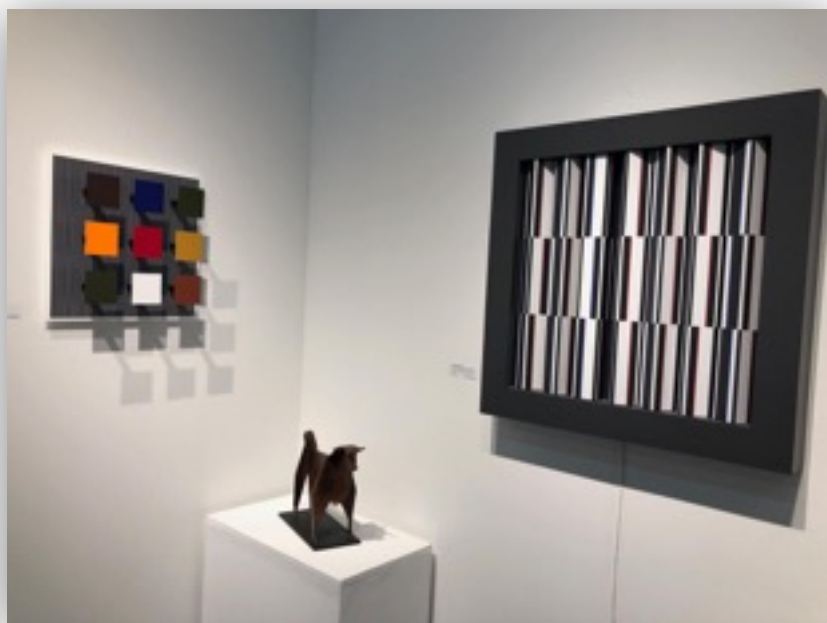
Perez Flores has been insisting constantly on concentrating his work. All his prolific artistic production shows permanent evolution, basing on the elements of prior periods, integrating new ideas, preceding future creations.

The work of Perez Flores is initiated by his interest in compositional variations of form and color in space. It testifies his intention to modify space. In his series "mobile 2004" cylindrical or polygonal elements are even turning in space, independently and at different speed. His work results in perfect harmony of geometric forms, prochromatical vibration with real or kinetic movement in space. The artist emphasizes that his physical gesture of painting and his relationship with the material – despite the well-thought composition – are the basis for the fascination of his artistic production; this is the veritable impact, the intensive emotion, the power of seduction of his work that you feel when affected by the luminous vibrations of the works of Perez Flores.

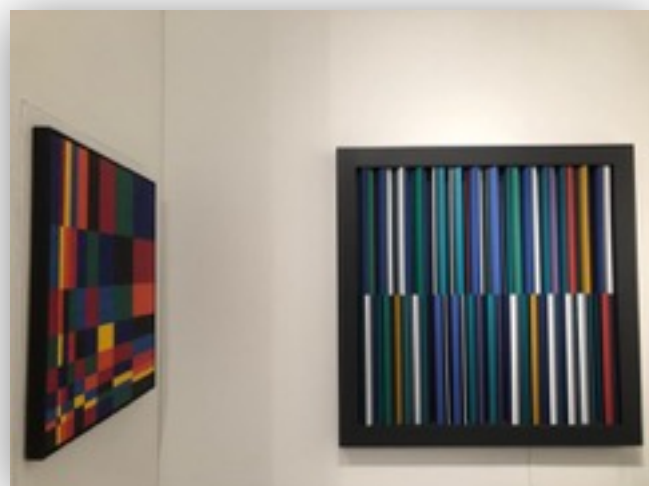
mark hachem



Volta Basel '2019



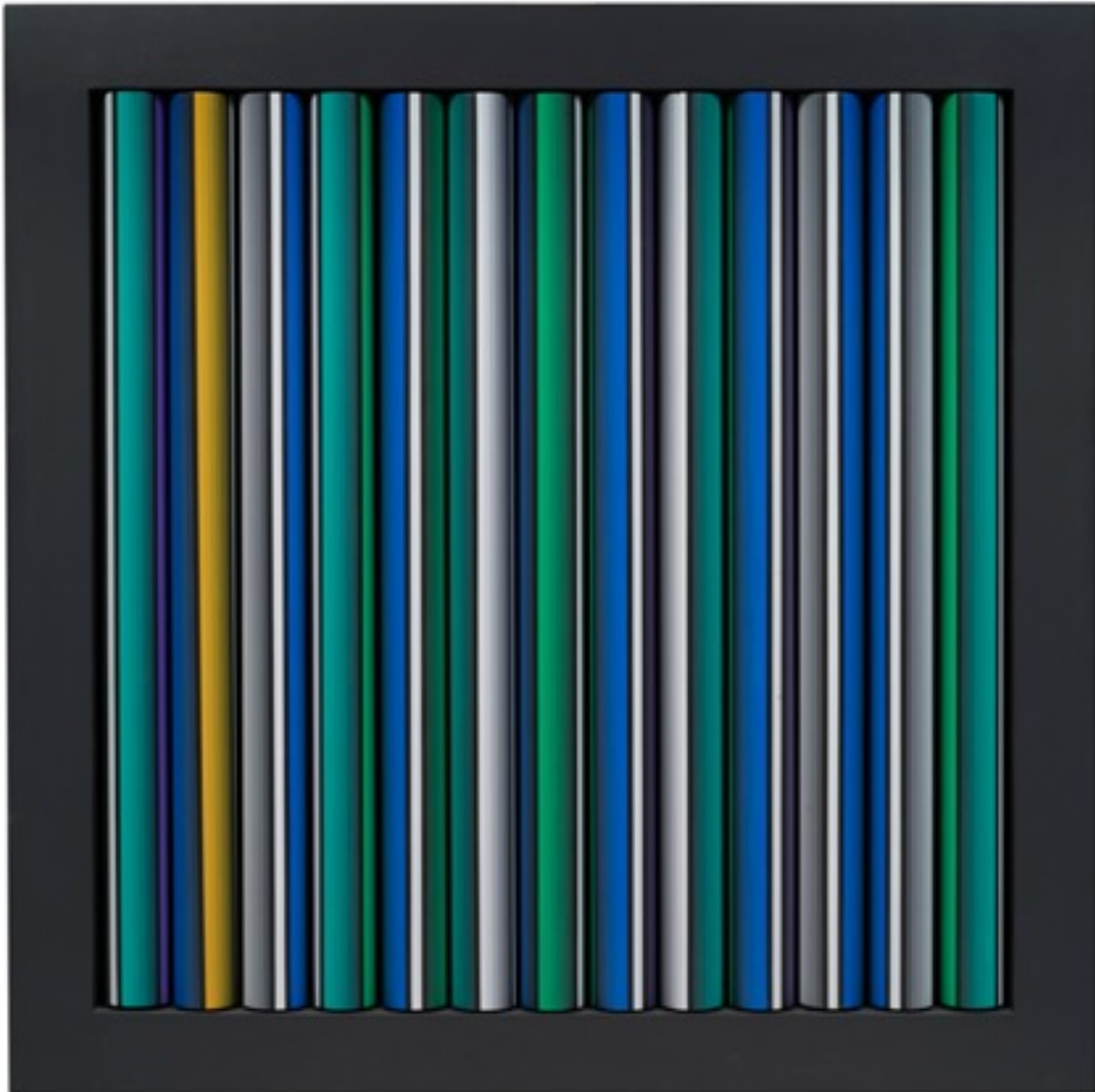
Art New York '2019



Art Miami '2018



Art Paris '2019



Dario Perez - Flores

Mobile A , 2019

Acrylic on canvas with electrical motor

107 x 107 x 9 cm

PER 10546 BA VC



Dario Perez - Flores

Mobile B,

2019

Acrylic on canvas with electrical motor

135 x 135 x 10 cm

PER 10545 BA VC

28 Place des Vosges | 75003, Paris

T + 33 1 42 76 94 93 | **E** paris@markhachem.com | **W** www.markhachem.com



Dario Perez - Flores

Dynamique Chromatique 853,

1997

Acrylic on canvas on wood

140 x 140 x 5 cm

PER 9812 BA VC



Dario Perez - Flores

Dynamique Chromatique 571

2016

Acrylic on canvas on wood

141 x 141 cm

PER 9644 PA