

Concord's Lacoste/Keane to Feature Rafa Perez August 3-24, 2019

On Chance and Materiality: sculptor Rafa Pérez's first East Coast exhibition

I'm looking forward to East Coast solo exhibit of the Spanish sculptor Rafa Perez—to be held from 3-5 pm at the Lacoste/Keane Gallery, 25 Main Street, Concord, MA, on August 3, 2019.



Born in 1957 in Haro, La Rioja, Spain, Perez studied ceramics at the Massana School of Art and Design in Barcelona. According to a gallery press release, he has been making abstract sculptures for over 30 years.

Though prolific and well exhibited in Europe, Pérez has been largely under represented in the United States –his only previous US solo show was at Minnesota State University in 2018.

Perez's work is the result of two important factors – his masterful handling of the clay body while letting the unpredictability of the firing be an active participant in the

process. This is achieved by mixing his own clay body and experimenting with firing temperatures. It is the element of surprise that motivates him to continuously tests materials until he is satisfied, he wrote, "I try to keep a balanced relation with the fire. I mean the fire has to work by its own as I do, but finally we are a team." In the work Untitled #8, 2014 (pictured), Perez applied his own special formula of glaze on wire mesh which crawls during firing, giving the piece a dramatic affect.

Lucy Lacoste, the founder of our gallery surmises, "I have been watching Rafa Pérez's career for some time and to me, he is exciting because of his handling of the materials which is innovative and unorthodox much like Jackson Pollock or Jasper Johns."

Born in 1957 in Haro, La Rioja, Spain Perez studied ceramics at the Although prolific and well exhibited in Europe, says Lacoste/Keane founder and co-owner Lucy Lacoste. "He has been largely under represented in the United States –his only previous US solo show was at the Minnesota State University in 2018."

Lacoste describes Pérez's work as the result of two important factors: "... his masterful handling of the clay body and the unpredictability of the firing, which becomes an active participant in the process. This is achieved by mixing his own clay body and experimenting with firing temperatures. It is the element of surprise that motivates him to continuously tests materials until he is satisfied. "



Perez writes "I try to keep a balanced relation with the fire. I mean the fire has to work by its own as I do, but finally we are a team."

In the work Untitled #8, 2014 (pictured), Perez applied his own special formula of glaze on wire mesh which crawls during firing, giving the piece a dramatic affect.

Lacoste says, "I have been watching Rafa Pérez's career for some time and to me, he is exciting because of his handling of the materials which is innovative and unorthodox— much like Jackson Pollock or Jasper Johns."

An opening reception with Rafa Pérez will be held on Saturday August 3, 3:00 – 5:00 pm, with an artist talk on Sunday August 4, 2:00-4:00 pm. For details call 978-369-0278 or email info@lacostekeane.com.