

THE WAYS OF SAINT JAMES

IN SAINT JAMES'S WAY

Exhibition based around the videographic work of Gabriel Díaz

Tour Saint Jacques, Paris

July 1st - July 31st 2011

Opening: Square de la Tour Saint Jacques. Thursday June 30th at 7 pm

Located in the heart of the city, the Tour Saint Jacques is considered the most emblematic monument linked to St. James's Way in Europe.

This exhibition is an invitation to (re)discover through the gaze of Spanish artist Gabriel Díaz (Pamplona, 1968) six of the old European routes that for centuries crossed Europe to Santiago de Compostela.

Over the space of six years, Gabriel Díaz journeyed on foot along 5,000 kilometres of the main Jacobean routes in Europe, taking a photograph every eleven steps. These images were subsequently transformed into the video-installation at the centre of this exhibition.

The current show builds on the work done by Díaz in previous years on pilgrimage routes in different parts of the world.

The six routes followed by the artist in Europe and Spain are:

From Le Puy to Saint Jean Pied de Port (France)
From Nuremberg to Geneva (Germany/Switzerland)
From Maastricht to Vézelay (Netherlands /France)

From Roncesvalles to Santiago (The French Way)
From Sevilla to Santiago (The Silver Way)
De Irún à Santiago (The Northern Way)

The exhibition, organized by Fundación ARQ ART and the Mairie de Paris, has been possible thanks to the support of the Spanish Ministry of Culture, the Cultural Office of the Spanish Embassy in France, the Spanish Tourism Office in Paris, as part of its drive to promote cultural tourism in Spain, and the bank BBVA, which opened its first foreign branch in Paris in the year 1902.

In 2010 the exhibition was presented in Spain in Oviedo (Cathedral), Pamplona (Cathedral), Burgos (Royal Monastery of Las Huelgas), León (Royal Collegiate Church of San Isidoro), Salamanca (DA2 Domus Artium 2002), Santiago de Compostela (The Pilgrimage Museum). It has been staged this year at the Strahov Monastery in Prague, and in 2012 is scheduled to visit the Sankt Peter Kunst Station in Cologne.

Gabriel Díaz has shown at leading galleries and institutions, among them the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (MNCARS), the Bilbao Guggenheim, the Galician Centre for Contemporary Art (CGAC), Artium Contemporary Basque Art Centre in Vitoria, the LABoral in Gijón and the Municipal Museum of Contemporary Art in Madrid/Centro Cultural del Conde Duque.

His work can be found in the collections of MNCARS, La Caixa Foundation, Artium, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León (MUSAC), Caja Madrid Foundation, CGAC, AENA Foundation etc.

In 2010 he received the New Artist of the Year award from magazine Descubrir el Arte.

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Tour Saint Jacques. Square de la Tour Saint Jacques. Paris 4^{ème}
Exhibition opening hours: M-S 10am - 9pm

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