

THEATREWORKS 72-13

nowhere man

An installation by
MATEO LÓPEZ

when

7 – 22 September 2012

venue

72-13 Mohamed Sultan Road,
Singapore 239007

Images by Oscar Montaña

Nowhere Man is a project conceived for the exhibition *The Peripatetic School-Itinerant Drawing from Latin America*, presented at London's Drawing Room and which, fittingly, travelled to several venues afterwards both in Europe and Latin America. *Nowhere Man* appears to be a small office tucked behind a room divider, with a desk with its drawers open, a chair, a bed, a box and a bag. In the tradition of Duchamp's *Boîte-en-valise* (box in a suitcase, 1935-40), most of the elements that Mateo created for the installation travel inside the suitcase, which is shown alongside them.

In every place the piece is exhibited, Mateo creates new drawings and objects, so the work reflects its itinerant exhibitionary life by the sheer accumulation of images inspired by the places where it was shown. The nature of the nomad consists of his rootlessness, not being from a specific place but incorporating bits and pieces of the experiences of those he has been to, and his strength lies in that he takes his world with him, leaving nothing behind to anchor him. Neither here nor there, always in flux: nomad man, the world is at his command.

Mateo's presence at 72-13 is part of *Irregular Hexagon: Colombian Art in Residence*. *Irregular Hexagon* consists of six distinct one-person exhibitions of artists from Colombia, which are hosted by six institutions, located in places as diverse as Morocco, Israel, Australia, Turkey, Singapore and Vietnam. Each artist does a three-week residency at two of the spaces, and each space hosts two artists over the course of a year. These short-term residencies will provide the artists a unique opportunity to engage with the local context, its cultural particularities, its language and its images, subsequently contributing to the creation of additional new work for the exhibition realised at the respective host site.

Following Mateo's residency at 72-13, Maria Jose Arjona (Bogotá, Colombia) will be presenting her video works from 28 September – 13 October 2012 as part of *Irregular Hexagon: Colombian Art in Residence*. Hosting Mateo López and Maria Jose Arjona is part of 72-13's aim to present innovative and engaging visual artists who have yet to be seen in Singapore exposing the Singapore audience to a wider range of works and to have Singapore visual artists exchanging and engaging ideas with them.

Mateo López (Bogotá, Colombia)

Drawing drives Mateo López artistic practice, but he does not dwell on his remarkable technical ability; on the contrary, his drawing is always at the service of a conceptual programme. In recent works like *The Motorcycle Diaries* (2007), *Anecdotal Topography* (2007), *Traveling Without Movement* (2008), and *Adrián* (2009) Mateo has invoked the figure of the travelling artist, crossing territories by bus, motorcycle or other means of transportation. These travels are ripe with cultural references - from the scientific expeditions of the 18th and 19th centuries to Che Guevara's mythical motorcycle trip. Mateo makes drawings, objects, architectural models and annotations, and shows the results at the point of destiny thus defining travelling as an instance of knowledge.

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72-13 Mohamed Sultan Road,
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opening hours:

12 – 8pm (Tuesday – Saturday)
Closed on Sundays & Mondays

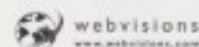
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