



DEMOCRACIA

Welfare State

08.06.2019 – 09.11.2019

ADN Platform presents the *Welfare State* project by DEMOCRACIA art group

- Artists recognized for their interventions in the public space and for their joint work with groups outside the art world.
- The exhibition offers a vision of society in which violence is seen as a spectacle.
- On June 8, the opening day, the artists will present their work to the public.

June 8, 2019 - ADN Platform presents *Welfare State*, a solo show which accompanies the DEMOCRACIA's exhibition *ORDER Act I. Eat the rich – Kill the poor* presented at ADN Galeria at the same time.

The *Welfare State* project has its provenance in El Salobral, one of Europe's largest shanty towns located on the southern outskirts of Madrid. In

March 2007, the Madrid City Council and the Regional Government decided the town should be demolished and its inhabitants rehoused.

The video transmits the demolition of these slum properties as if it were a sports event. The public watches the process from its seats on the terraces and urges on the demolition machine's operators as if they were hooligans.

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The project turns the destruction of the neighbourhood into a show. The aesthetics of ultra supporters, the supposed personalisation of consumption (tuning or tattoos...) and hip hop or heavy metal music are used here as cultural references for a society that gets a kick out of the spectacle of destruction.

DEMOCRACIA is a work team made up in 2006 and based in Madrid.

The decision to work as a group springs from the intention of engaging in an artistic practice centered on discussion and on the clash of ideas and forms of action. The fact of working in a group establishes in itself an interest for intervening in the social sphere. DEMOCRACIA works as a node of interests grouped temporarily for the development of the same objective, which is approached from different perspectives: those of each one of the participants in the project, being these the different agents (permanent and temporary) that shape DEMOCRACIA as the specific communities with which a collaboration is established.

DEMOCRACIA also works in publishing (they are directors of *Nolens Volens* magazine) and curatorial projects (*No Futuro*, *Madrid Abierto 2008*, *Creador de Dueños*, *Useful Art*). They were founders and part of *El Perro* group (1989-2006).



DEMOCRACIA, *Welfare State (Smash the ghetto)*, 2008

The most recent individual exhibitions of DEMOCRACIA have been *ORDER*, at Station Museum of Contemporary Art in Houston; *ORDER*, at Rua Red in Tallaght, Dublin; *Democracia*, at the Zas Kultur in Vitoria; and *ORDER. Act III. Dinner at The Dorchester*, also at ADN Galeria in Barcelona. Among other centers, their projects have been exhibited at Centre Pompidou in Paris; at BPS22 in Charleroi; at MOCCA in Toronto; at MAXXI Museum in Rome; at Hirshhorn Museum in Washington; and at Frankfurter Kunstverein in Frankfurt.

In the near future they will open at La Panera in Lleida the exhibition of the whole *ORDER* project, with the projection of the three acts and different materials associated with the actions which gave rise to the acts.

You can extend the information on the exhibition and the artists, as well as the ADN Galeria program, on the web site of the gallery www.adngaleria.com



DEMOCRACIA, *Welfare State Tuning Girls #1*, 2008

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