

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía

Main venue

Sabatini Building
Santa Isabel, 52

Nouvel Building
Ronda de Atocha s/n
28012 Madrid

Tel. (+34) 91 774 10 00

Opening hours

Monday to Saturday
and public holidays
from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sundays
from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
the entire Museum is open
from 1:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Collection 1 and one temporary
exhibition remain open
(check website)

Closed on Tuesdays

Exhibition rooms in all venues
will be cleared 15 minutes
before closing time.

www.museoreinasofia.es

Parque del Retiro venues

Palacio de Cristal
Palacio de Velázquez

Opening Hours

Everyday
April to September
from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
March and October
from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
November to February
from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

* The Palacio de Cristal
closes on rainy days

Images:

Hassan Khan, Digital Render of a 19th
century velador table from the collection
of the National Museum of Romanticism,
Madrid. Detail from *HAPPY EMPIRE*,
2019, Ceramic Mural. Courtesy of the
artist.

NIPO: 828-19-008-1

D. L.: M-XXXX-2019

List of works

Outside

Welcome Flags (2019), 2 double
sided printed flags.

Inside Clockwise

The Infinite Hip-Hop Song (2019),
Algorithmic Hip-Hop Song produced
by the artist, Glass and Stainless
Steel Sculpture.

SIMPLER TIMES (2019),
Painted Wall Text.

*MUDMOUNTAIN LOVEHATE
FLOWERS (2019)*, Compressed
Earth and Synthetic Flowers.

Brass Column (2019),
Customized Brass Rings.

The Keys to the Kingdom (2019),
14 embroidered and 4 printed flags,
flagpoles.

HAPPY EMPIRE (2019), Computer
generated mural digitally printed
on Ceramics, Platform with Mylar
Streamers.

Programa educativo
desarrollado con el patrocinio de:

 **Santander**
Fundación

Exhibition October 18, 2019 – March 1, 2020

Parque del Retiro, Palacio de Cristal

Hassan Khan

The Keys to the Kingdom



**MUSEO NACIONAL
CENTRO DE ARTE
REINA SOFÍA**

 **GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA**

**MINISTERIO
DE CULTURA
Y DEPORTE**



THE IMAGE ACCOMPANYING THIS TEXT IS A COMPUTER-GENERATED 3D RENDER OF A TABLE I SAW IN THE MUSEUM OF ROMANTICISM ON MY THIRD VISIT TO MADRID IN PREPARATION FOR THIS EXHIBITION. IT MADE ME VERY ANGRY AND FOR A MOMENT I WAS TEMPTED TO TAKE THE TABLE AND PLACE IT ALONE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE. ALTHOUGH THIS DID NOT FEEL SUFFICIENT THE TABLE BECAME THE KEY TO THIS EXHIBITION ABOUT KEYS. LOOK AT ITS PRINTED DIGITAL REPLICA- IT IS BOTH GROTESQUE AND SUBLIME. LOOK AT HOW IT MAKES THE PERSON IT REPRESENTS MONSTROUS AND UNHUMAN. HOW IT EXERTS VIOLENCE BY TWISTING THEIR NECK AND EXAGGERATING THEIR FEATURES AND USING THEM AS SUPPORT FOR THE WOODEN TABLETOP. PLEASE LOOK AT HOW IT MIXES BRUTAL INHUMAN CONTORTIONS WITH ELEGANCE AND REFINEMENT TO PRODUCE A GROTESQUE EFFECT. LOOK AT THE WAY THE TABLETOP SEEMS STRANGELY SUSPENDED IT FEELS SUBLIME. IT FEELS LIKE IT IS FLOATING BECAUSE THE SCULPTED FIGURE OF THE UPSIDE-DOWN SLAVE SUPPORTING THE GOLD ENAMELLED MAHOGANY STRUCTURE IS A TRUE MANIFESTATION OF REAL CONDITIONS. THE IMAGE OF THE SLAVE IS REAL BECAUSE IT OFFERS A KEY TO UNDERSTANDING HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS. THE VIOLENT DEHUMANIZING PHYSICAL CONTORTIONS OF ENSLAVED PEOPLE FORCED INTO LABOUR PRODUCED FOR SOME WEALTH AND POWER AND WHAT THEY CALLED BEAUTY. BUT POWERFUL EMOTIONS WERE ALSO HARVESTED. THE HATRED YOU HAVE FOR THE DOMINATED. A SENSE OF YOUR RACIAL ENTITLEMENT. AN INTENSE RAGE REPLACING WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE. THE DESIRE TO PROTECT WHAT YOU THINK IS PRECIOUS. THE FEAR OF LOSING WHAT YOU OWN. ENVY OF THOSE WHO ALLOW YOU TO ACCUMULATE VALUE. I THE ARTIST USING THIS ELEMENT AS PART OF THEIR WORK IN THIS EXHIBITION WROTE THIS TEXT.