

ABRAHAM CRUZVILLEGAS INAUGURATES KURIMANZUTTO'S NEW YORK  
PROJECT SPACE WITH SITE-SPECIFIC INSTALLATION

Abraham Cruzvillegas: *Autocontusión*

May 3 – June 15, 2018

Open House: May 3, 12:00pm-8:00pm



Installation views of *Autoconstrucción*, kurimanzutto new york project space, April 2–May 12, 2018. All photos © Matthew Conratt.

New York, NY (April 25, 2018) – **kurimanzutto** will inaugurate its new project space in New York with an installation by Mexican artist **Abraham Cruzvillegas**. Opening on Thursday, May 3, 2018, the installation will feature a new iteration from Cruzvillegas' ongoing series *Autocontusión*, which has been reimaged to activate the project space, incorporating locally-sourced materials from around the city. Additionally, the installation will include three new sculptures and a site-specific mural mapping the artist's favorite locations in New York. Situated on the Upper East Side on 22 East 65th Street, **kurimanzutto new york** represents a satellite of kurimanzutto in Mexico City and will serve as a hub for a range of artist programs and projects both on-site and off, reinforcing the gallery's collaborative and nomadic nature.

Serving as the anchor of the presentation, *Autocontusión* consists of a constellation of sculptures hanging from the ceiling throughout the project space. Presented first in 2016 at Art en Valise, and then Scrap Metal Gallery in Toronto, for this installation at kurimanzutto new york, the works have been reassembled and Cruzvillegas has complemented them with locally sourced, perishable and organic elements, such as manchego, bread, turmeric, ginger, molasses, lemongrass, avocados and prosciutto, to name a few. The installation forms an infinity loop across the space with the sculptures painted green on one half and bright pink on the other: this formal attribute is an ongoing homage to Brazilian artist Hélio Oiticica, following his visit to the Mangueria Samba Club in Rio de Janeiro in 2004.

In addition to this body of work, the artist has created three sculptures comprised of metal racks and scraps, wood, silver chain, and suspended water bottles. Each bottle is filled with pink and green glass

beads or *chaquiras* that create a colorful visual effect. Interested in local fauna, Cruzvillegas also sourced native prickly pear cacti from the New York region that have been integrated into the sculptures.

A site-specific mural depicting a map of lower Manhattan rendered with golden pigment complements the installation. In it, the artist creates spheres to represent some of his favorite spots (bars, bookstores, restaurants) in New York since visiting for the first time in the 1990s. Cruzvillegas then connects the dots according to a possible route between the locations to compose an abstract, geometric shape. This map is part of a series of ongoing representations of the artist's vibrant relationships with cities and geography, a distinctive way in which he relates to his surroundings and his own experience with changing contexts and places.

Referring to his project for kurimanzutto new york, Cruzvillegas said: "I try to approach specific issues related with my own circumstance, avoiding any biographic anecdote or narrative. I use my experience the same way I use objects, like matter that should change, so I guess you could say the theme of my overall work is transformation: identity being the most unstable and contradictory of life. In this way, any new project changes and reveals diverse and unstable links with previous ones, assuming every process as an educative device, in which the one who learns is me."

**kurimanzutto new york** will celebrate the launch of its new project space with an **Open House** on **Thursday, May 3** from **12:00-8:00pm**. Founders **José Kuri** and **Mónica Manzutto**, the New York team of Senior Director **Lissa McClure** and Director **Bree Zucker**, and artist **Abraham Cruzvillegas** will be present for the reception. The event will include food by renowned Mexican chef **Enrique Olvera** and tequila by **Casa Dragones**.

### **about the gallery**

In 1999, Mónica Manzutto and José Kuri were approached by Gabriel Orozco with the idea of opening a gallery that would represent the new generation of artists in Mexico to which he belonged. kurimanzutto's primary aim was to promote the careers of these artists and adapt to the varied and experimental projects it undertook. Initially a nomadic enterprise, its projects occupied disparate spaces across the urban landscape of Mexico City, and became the core of the first generation of its artists' practice. In time, a warehouse space became available to the artists and kurimanzutto for different ventures that required both an arena of freedom and unbound space. In 2008, kurimanzutto opened a permanent gallery space in Mexico City, yet the gallery continues to search for places outside the white-cube to carry forward its original vision. 2018 marks the gallery's exploration of new regions with the opening of a project space in New York.

### **represented artists**

Abraham Cruzvillegas (mex)

Adrián Villar Rojas (arg)

Akram Zaatari (leb)

Alexandra Bachzetsis (ch)

Allora & Calzadilla (us & pr)

Anri Sala (al)

Apichatpong Weerasethakul

(tha)

Carlos Amorales (mex)

Damián Ortega (mex)	Haegue Yang (sk)	Monika Sosnowska (pl)
Danh Vo (dk)	Iñaki Bonillas (mex)	Nairy Baghramian (irn)
Daniel Guzmán (mex)	Jimmie Durham (us) <sup>SEP</sup>	Rirkrit Tiravanija (tha)
Dr. Lakra (mex)	Jonathan Hernández (mex)	Roman Ondak (si)
Eduardo Abaroa (mex)	Leonor Antunes (port)	Sarah Lucas (uk)
Fernando Ortega (mex)	Marieta Chirulescu (ro)	Sofía Táboas (mex)
Gabriel Kuri (mex)	Mariana Castillo Deball (mex)	Tarek Atoui (leb)
Gabriel Orozco (mex)	Miguel Calderón (mex)	Wilfredo Prieto (cu)
Gabriel Sierra (co)	Minerva Cuevas (mex)	

For more information on **kurimanzutto** please visit us at **kurimanzutto.com** and connect with us on social media via **@kurimanzutto** and **#kurimanzutto**.

#### **media contacts**

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