



PRESS RELEASE



CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART AND CULTURE

Le Magasin - from Thursday 29 October to Thursday 10 December 2020  
Outdoor presentation, a work from the 49 North 6 East collection - FRAC Lorraine

## GRACIELA SACCO « BOCANADA »

Born in 1956 in Chañar Ladeado (Argentina), Graciela Sacco died in 2017 in Rosario (Argentina).

It's in 1993 that Graciela Sacco undertakes the series Bocanada. Made from photos of mouths wide open in close-up, Graciela Sacco declines these images in heliographic printing on different media that she converts into repetitive images. Evoking at the same time the famine, poverty, outrage, fear, the impossibility to express oneself, the same repeated images reflect universal problems that have not lost their topicality.

When they adopt the format, the mouths invade the urban space in a vast installation that parasites the walls, the spaces of advertising displays or the panels of electoral campaigns. Graciela Sacco thus tries to question the passer-by by confronting him with the disturbing image of a deaf cry.

By taking up the codes of the advertising display she creates a work with a strong political and social meaning. "Why cities? Because they are crossroads and places of exchange, privileged places for their modernity, for their avant-garde experiences, emblematic sites where the social, political and aesthetic transformations of this century were forged".

Texte : © DR

Visuels : © Graciela Sacco's Estate  
Courtesy : FRAC Lorraine - 49 Nord 6 Est  
Claire Valageas - Collection management



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**Calling out to passers-by by confronting them with the disturbing image of a deaf shout and using the codes of billboard advertising, the work, with strong political and social significance, resonates through the fight against violence against women.**

**Calling out to passers-by** by mixing photography, painting, installation and video, the artist explores the complex relationships that link art and daily life. Strongly influenced by the aesthetic-political interventions Tucumán Arde (Tucumán burns) of the Grupo de artistas de vanguardia in Rosario in 1968, his works emancipate themselves from traditional exhibition spaces to take their place in the heart of cities and become, according to the artist, "urban interferences" ..

### Questioning the relationship between memory and photography

Graciela Sacco graduated in 1987 with a thesis on the avant-garde movement. Argentinian of 1960. The artistic expressions of this decade established close links between artistic experimentation and social commitment, which culminated in Rosario, the artist's birthplace, with Tucumán Arde (Tucuman Burns), now considered a landmark in the international political conceptualism. This generation of artists was harshly repressed by the military dictatorship that took over the country from 1976 to 1983.

Graciela Sacco's work demonstrates, even in a democracy, that the recovery of memory is a collective and conflicting task. Her artistic work questions the relationship between memory and photography, where memory requires an active subject capable of dealing with the fragility and versatility of signs. In Spanish, "sense" refers to meaning and the body affected by sensory perceptions. Beauty and mystery are the means by which Graciela Sacco appeals to our feelings by multiplying and questioning the attribution of meaning.

### A primordial work

As a visual artist with an important place in the contemporary art scene, Graciela has represented Argentina in several international biennials, including the Shanghai Biennial (2004), Venice (2001), La Habana (1997 and 2000), Mercosur (1997), Sao Pablo (1996), the 1st Photography Biennial of Vigo (2000), the Urban Art Festival of Toulouse (2002), among others. She has received various distinctions and numerous international awards, including the title of Artist of the Year by the Argentine Association of Art Critics (2001), the Konex Prize (2002-2012), among others. She has published numerous books such as M2 Volumen I (2009), Shadows from the South and the North (2004), Imágenes en Turbulencia:

Migraciones, cuerpos, memoria (2000), Escrituras Solares (1994). She has been featured in leading publications such as America's Society Magazine, Bomb, Art Nexus, Art News, Art in Americas and the New York Times. Her work has been shown in solo and group exhibitions in Argentina, England, Germany, France, Switzerland, Israel, the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Cuba and Peru.

Today, his work can be found in prestigious national and international collections such as MAMBA - Museum of Modern Art, Buenos Aires, Argentina; MACRO - Museum of Contemporary Art Rosario, Argentina; Bronx Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, USA; MFAH - Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA; Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, USA; Microsoft Art Collection, Washington, USA; Capitolo Policultural, Porto Alegre, Brazil; University of Essex, Colchester, England, among others.