



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Adrian Melis, *Glories of a Forgotten Future*, 2016 (still).
Courtesy of the artist and ADN Galeria

HIGH LINE ART PRESENTS

ADRIAN MELIS *SELECTED WORKS*

NOVEMBER 23, 2017 – JANUARY 17, 2018
DAILY BEGINNING AT 5 PM
ON THE HIGH LINE AT 14TH ST.

New York, NY (November 20, 2017) – Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art is pleased to announce *Selected Works* by Adrian Melis, an exhibition in video format to be screened on High Line Channel 14, a series of outdoor projections of art videos in the semi-enclosed passageway on the High Line at 14th Street. The program features a selection of three works that explore the history and contemporary realities of Cuba as lived inside the minds of its citizens, through intimate and sometimes heartbreaking videos.

Through the use of text captions, environmental sounds, humor, and simple scenes, Adrian Melis narrates topics that could otherwise become overly sentimental or didactic – labor, resources, and politics, including the imagined future of Cuba since the change in US policy in 2015.

Glories of a forgotten future (2016) is a collaboration with elderly Cuban women, whom the artist asked to recall their youth through a song, picturing themselves in a club or ballroom from the affluent period in Cuba before the revolution – a time in their lives when they thought their future would have been bright and glorious. In *The New Man and my father* (2015) the artist conducts a silent interview with his father about recent events that marked a change in the history of Cuba and its new relations with the West. In *The Making of forty rectangular pieces for a floor construction* (2008) workers in a state-run factory imitate the sounds of their usual workday – such as concrete





makers, mixing machines, shovels, trucks, wheelbarrows. The video illustrates the fact that, due to a shortage of materials to produce, the workers of a state-run enterprise spend their workday just sitting, waiting for their working time to come to an end.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Adrian Melis (b. 1985, Havana, Cuba) lives and works in Barcelona and Athens. Recent solo exhibitions have been featured at the Fundación Cerezales Antonino y Cinia, León, Spain (2017); Kunstlehrstuhl Baden, Baden, Switzerland (2017); and de Appel Arts Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands (2016). Notable group exhibitions featuring his work have been presented at LAXART, Los Angeles (2017); Es Baluard Museu d'Art Modern i Contemporani de Palma, Palma de Mallorca, Spain (2016); MACBA, Barcelona, Spain (2016); Centre Pompidou, Málaga, Spain and Paris, France (2016); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands (2015); and the Museum of Modern Art, New York (2014). Melis's work has been featured in major biennials including X Bienal Centroamericana, San José, Costa Rica (2016); 10th Shanghai Biennale, Shanghai, China (2014); XXXI Bienal de Pontevedra, Universidad de Vigo, Vigo, Spain (2010); and Bienal de la Habana, Havana, Cuba (2012 and 2006).

ABOUT HIGH LINE ART

Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art commissions and produces public art projects on and around the High Line. Founded in 2009, High Line Art presents a wide array of artwork including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions. Curated by Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, and produced by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art invites artists to think of creative ways to engage with the uniqueness of the architecture, history, and design of the High Line and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape. For further information on High Line Art, please visit art.thehighline.org.

ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE HIGH LINE

Friends of the High Line raises 98% of the High Line's annual budget.

Owned by the City of New York, the High Line is a public park maintained, operated, and programmed by Friends of the High Line, in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

SUPPORT

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SOCIAL MEDIA INFORMATION

@HighLineArtNYC #AdrianMelis

MEDIA CONTACT

Cecilia Alemani | Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art | (646) 774-2476 | cecilia.alemani@thehighline.org

