

Some Direction

Photography by Violeta Mayoral

15 January 2021 – 2 May 2021

Press Release

**The Fundació Joan Miró presents the photography exhibition
Some Direction, by Violeta Mayoral**

**With a gaze that is lyrical yet dry, the artist evokes the elements as
a landscape of human experience.**

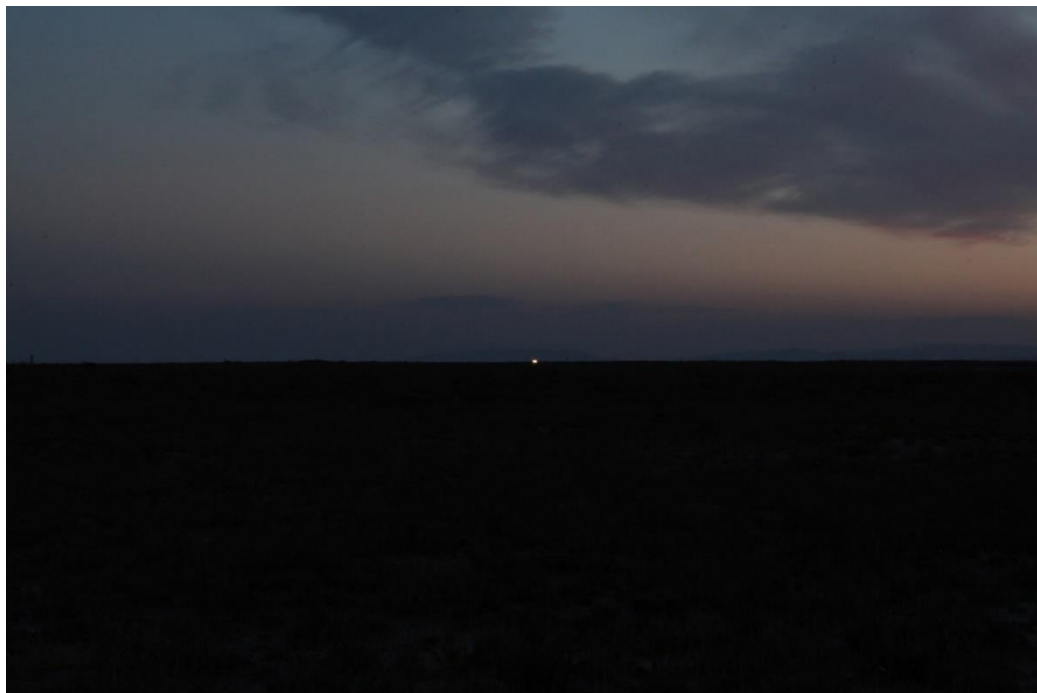
**The images in this show, curated by Martina Millà, fluctuate
between the absence of boundaries and the effort to measure the
immensity of the space so as to find refuge in it.**

Barcelona, 15 January 2021. Violeta Mayoral (Almeria, 1988) grew up in the Tabernas desert, a harsh environment that has influenced her gaze. In the selection of photographs presented at the Fundació Joan Miró, the artist situates human experience in the open air, with no ceiling or shelter, in empty, unattainable landscapes which accentuate vulnerability.



Most of the images in the show are of cold temperatures, taken at dusk or at times of low luminosity. They represent sites that, at first view, could seem hostile. In them, time has been suspended and the given space gives rise to a sense of estrangement, lacking all points of reference. The few features that can be seen seek to mark out and give sense to the infinite quality of a diluting landscape without contours: a sea that is a wall, a vegetation wall, the impact of a flash on the surface that transforms it into something rigid.

For Martina Millà, curator of the exhibition, Mayoral's landscapes, despite being unfavourable, insecure and precarious, are "an attempt to find a refuge amidst so much hostility through beauty." Not in vain, the obstacles force us to halt in our steps and create, as Millà sees it, "a time of repose and contemplation in this state of unending research into an expectation, the results of a promise that we pass on from generation to generation though which is never fulfilled: the promise as an illusory exterior feature, and the gaze as a threshold, both encircling the subject and its interiority, its solitude beneath the elements."



Fundació Joan Miró Barcelona

Violeta Mayoral (Almeria, 1988) is a multidisciplinary artist resident in Barcelona. Her work develops through artistic practice and theoretical research. Both paths are found in proposals that invite us to reflect upon the way interiority is revealed in the encounter with exteriority, a contact that often points to who is looking over the gaze itself.

Mayoral studied Communication at the University of Barcelona and specialised in semiotics at the UNAM (Mexico City).

Her solo exhibitions feature *Un buen lugar para dar marcha atrás* (2019) and *Fuera de lugar* (2020), both at Galería etHall in Barcelona. Her work has been seen in group shows at the Sala de Arte Joven in Madrid, amongst others, and has also been shown at contemporary art fairs like Swab.

Violeta Mayoral has published articles in *A*DESK*, at the Instituto Independiente de Crítica y Arte Contemporáneo, in the experimental art platform *Lateral Addition* and for the Department of History of Philosophy, Aesthetics and Philosophy of Culture of the University of Barcelona, amongst others.

<http://violetamayoral.com/>

<http://instagram.com/violetamayoral>

Since 2012, the Fundació Joan Miró has programmed photography exhibitions in its lobby. With the agreement between the heirs of Joaquim Gomis and the Generalitat de Catalunya, the foundation has taken on the management of the Gomis Archive, as well as promoting the collection and encouraging the study of his work. With this in mind, the work of Gomis is shown in temporary exhibits, which alternative with shows by other creators who have practiced photography as amateurs.

Images available at <https://bit.ly/2JahrOY>

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