

**Pi Artworks London is thrilled to present *Chop! Chop! Chop!* by Albano Hernández. The artist's first solo exhibition in London.
5 – 28 October 2023**

**PV: Thursday 5th October
6 - 8pm
55 Eastcastle St
London W1W 8EG**

*"My latest works are a personal diary through
upcycled materials"*



*Albano Hernández, 2023, P23.46 (Detail)
29 x 29 x 3 cm. Air-dry clay and waste materials*

Pi Artworks London is delighted to present Albano Hernández's first solo exhibition at the gallery - *Chop! Chop! Chop!* on Thursday 5th October, following his graduation from the Royal College of Art in 2022. Featuring a large-scale mural and a variety of rich, textural paintings, this exhibition centres on notions of perception, value and productivity, all of which underpin Albano's practice.

Winner of the Hine painting prize in 2022, Albano has developed his 'meta-painting' process over the last two years. The artist explores and challenges the potential of the medium itself, asking questions of commodification, consumption and the politics of art production. Inspired in the wake of Jeffrey Deitch's seminal 2012 exhibition *The Painting Factory*, Albano began focusing on the 'brushstroke', which he creates from air-dry clay and studio waste, which forces us to examine our perception of what 'painting' is today, how matter is presented in the world, and how consumption processes infiltrate all aspects of our lives.

Growing up in Ávila, a region of Spain where meat consumption and industry plays a significant role in the culture and economy, led Albano to focus on the aesthetics that meat generates as a commodity. He has obsessive thoughts about the processes of fragmentation, packing, distribution and exposure of animal bodies under the meat label, with a focus on processed meat and the simulacrum of fake meat. Manipulation of materiality interest the artist and thus Albano employs an industrial meat-slicer to fragment his own brushstrokes in this body of work, sometimes then vacuum-packing his paintings to create works reminiscent of packeted supermarket meat.

Waste also plays an equally significant role in Albano's practice, with the artist initially repurposing old studio materials in his paintings to create a circular economy of both physical production and conceptual dialogues between present and past creations. His process involves meticulous application of brushstrokes, and his larger scale works often take several months to complete.

By incorporating waste from his everyday life, Albano draws attention to issues of sustainability and environmentally conscious production as well as to the dichotomy between the values we place on 'waste' vs that of 'fine art.' *Chop-Chop-Chop!* centres on a gesture as simple as it is complex, it is an invitation to reflect on the characteristics that define the industrial world we inhabit.

The show will run until October 28th 2023. Gallery opening hours are 12 – 6pm, Tuesday Saturday. For further queries, images and interviews contact london@piartworks.com or WhatsApp +44 77 18425153.

PI ARTWORKS

Albano Hernández (b.1988, Avila Spain) lives and works in Cambridge, UK. He graduated from the Royal College of Art in 2022 (MA Painting) and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Complutense University of Madrid, UCM.

Solo exhibitions include:

(2023) Chop! Chop! Chop! Pi Artworks London, London, UK
(2022) Bah! Forraje! The Box Project Space, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London, UK
(2020) 'Un diario no lineal'. Museo Salvador Victoria. Rubielos de Mora. Spain
(2020) 'Pantone'. Collège d'Espagne. Paris. France
(2019) 'Todo y Nada' Fundación Iturria. Montevideo. Uruguay
(2019) 'Voyage'. CLIC. Department of Engineering. University of Cambridge. UK
(2017) 'Nadie nada borra'. Galería Juan Riso. Madrid. Spain
(2017) 'Over the rainbow'. Galería Iturria. Cadaqués. Spain
(2017) 'Los heraldos verdes'. UBS Europe SE, Madrid, Spain
(2017) 'Claro vuelo de la Memoria'. Biblioteca pública de Ávila. Spain
(2013) 'Génesis'. Taller del Prado, Madrid, Spain
(2013) 'Ni siroco ni pampero'. Showroom Mansa 16. Punta del Este, Uruguay

Public and Private Collections include:

Ars Citerior Collection, Alicante, Spain
Art Circle / Art Embassies. Goriška Brda, Slovenia
Ayuntamiento de Ávila, Spain
Ayuntamiento de Badajoz, Spain
Ayuntamiento de Madrid, Spain
Ayuntamiento de Majadahonda, Madrid, Spain
Ayuntamiento de Palencia, Spain
Biblioteca Nacional, Madrid, Spain
BMW Ibérica, Madrid, Spain
Collège d'Espagne, Paris, France
Cortes de Castilla y León, Valladolid, Spain
Diputación de Salamanca, Spain
Fundación Ávila, Ávila, Spain
Fundación Ankaria, Madrid, Spain
Fundación Antonio Pérez. Cuenca. Spain
Fundación Caja Castilla la Mancha, Toledo, Spain
Fundación Caja de Extremadura, Plasencia, Spain
Fundación Montemadrid, Madrid, Spain
Fundación Marcelo Gómez Matías, Ávila, Spain
Fundación Obra Social de Castilla y León. Valladolid. Spain
Fundación Sociedad Protectora de los niños, Madrid, Spain
Fundación Tejerina, Madrid, Spain
Fundación Iturria, Montevideo, Uruguay
Fundación Valparaíso, Almería, Spain
Fundación Venancio Blanco, Salamanca Spain
Fundação António Prates, Lisbon, Portugal
Fundação José Saramago, Lisbon, Portugal
Junta Rectora Parque de Cazorla Segura y las Villas, Cazorla, Spain
Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores y de Cooperación, Spain
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Infanta Elena, Tomelloso, Spain
Museo de Adolfo Suárez y la Transición, Cebreros, Spain
Museo Marina Gómez, Salamanca, Spain
Taller del Prado, Madrid, Spain
Thomas Hine, Jarnac, France
UBS Europe SE, Madrid, Spain
University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Pi Artworks London: 55 Eastcastle Street, W1W 8EG London, UK
For further information please contact:london@piartworks.com/ +44 207 637 8403