

# I AM TWO WITH NATURE

Woody Allen

Robert Feo and Rosario Hurtado are the Post-Disciplinary studio EL ULTIMO GRITO. Their work reflects upon their interest in how contemporary culture incorporates, re-uses and re-interprets the systems and structures that it has inherited. Within this context the challenge is to create new objects, which can be typologically disentangled from our conventional (learned) understanding of the world, and thus offer alternative ways to live, work and communicate. El Ultimo Grito's work has been widely exhibited and is collected by leading international museums and galleries.

In 2008 the practice was renamed ELG Studio during a two-year residency in Berlin. Now based back in London the studio's work has expanded into a distinct critical practice along side Product design and Art Direction. Both partners teach at the Royal College of Art and Goldsmiths University, as well as being acting visiting Professors at HfBK, Hamburg University. The Aram Gallery thanks Kingston University Design Department where Rosario Hurtado and Roberto Feo are senior research fellows, for supporting this exhibition.

Daniel Charny, Curator

Known for their engaging reinvention of objects, and large scale installations, El Ultimo Grito's more recent work has included direct questioning of cultural and social preconceptions. This new direction is embodied in the selected works for this exhibition which include: a group of large blown glass installations exploring architectural archetypes created with master glassblowers in Italy; a collection of lightweight cardboard and resin furniture, incorporating structural ingenuity with rich colouring and a permanent dining table; and 'Found objects: Dialogues' a series of photographic re-appropriations of famous quotes.

With the arrival of **ABANDON ARCHITECTURES**, **EL ULTIMO GRITO'S** new book, The Aram Gallery is pleased to present three collections of work from 2009 and 2010, not yet seen in the UK.

El Ultimo Grito DIALOGUES

INVITES YOU TO

## EL ULTIMO GRITO DIALOGUES

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**PRIVATE VIEW**  
25TH MARCH 6-8:30 PM

26TH MARCH - 1ST MAY

110 DRURY LANE, COVENT GARDEN  
LONDON WC2B 5SG

MONDAY-SATURDAY, 10-6 PM  
(THURSDAY 10-7PM)

www.thearamgallery.org  
+44 (0)20 7557 7526

2010

**THE ARAM GALLERY**  
FOR EXPERIMENTAL OR NEW DESIGN

GALLERY DIRECTOR: ZEEV ARAM  
CURATOR: DANIEL CHARNY  
ASSISTANT CURATOR: ELLIE PARKE

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## El Ultimo Grito ABANDON ARCHITECTURES

by ROBERTO FEO & ROSARIO HURTADO

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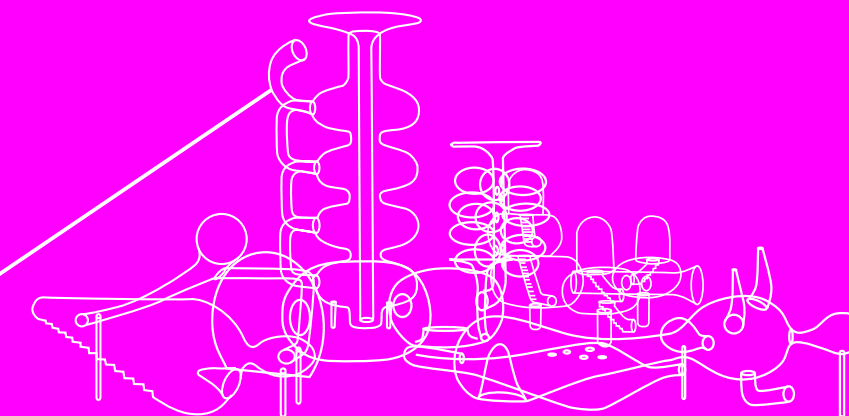
From the introduction to ABANDON ARCHITECTURES:

*A few days after moving to Berlin we were in a cafe in Kreuzberg enjoying what, in hindsight, was an amazing spring. Sitting outdoors with two cappuccinos on the table was already an upgrade in our quality of life, coming from London where sun and good coffee are rare commodities. The terrace was packed with punters, which is so Berlin, it doesn't matter the time of the day you will always find busy cafes and bars with no apparent rush hours, which makes it difficult to read it as a city (you can even wonder if people work at all).*

*Half way through our coffee we see this guy approaching riding his bike. He was well built, in his forties, with black jeans, black t-shirt (packet of cigarettes tucked under his sleeve), black motorcycle boots and black shades as if out of The Wild One, riding his bike towards us. You might be wondering how we managed to have such an acute look at him. He was riding a huge chopper bicycle and, although not a Harley, he kept his killer face: very much in his role.*

## ON SHOW

**IMAGINARY ARCHITECTURES**  
2009



A collection of blown Pirex glass pieces where the container and the contained are one single entity. They are spatial expressions where to mentally project oneself (in the fashion of a miniature Japanese garden, to draw a similitude) where it is not so much the object, but the exploration and perception of it. These 'vehicles' contain elements characteristic of known spaces, that allow us to imagine how it would be like to navigate their interior.

**FOUND OBJECTS: DIALOGUES**  
2009



Treating these bits of text as objects provides El Ultimo Grito with manageable materials to play with, assembling them together as ready-mades to generate their own narrative. They have put together a list of slogans that has the rhythm of a conversation or a monologue where the dogmatic and the sceptical play a game of 'questions and answers'. The result doesn't carry a concrete meaning, but is intended to paint a picture that encourages us to question and ultimately 'abandon architectures'.

**CARDBOARD AND RESIN**  
2009/2010



Lightweight cardboard table structures that mix geometrical and organic principles in their construction. The pieces are coated with resin which provides extra rigidity to the cardboard whilst sealing its surface.