

PAZ ERRÁZURIZ: CIRCO (CIRCUS)

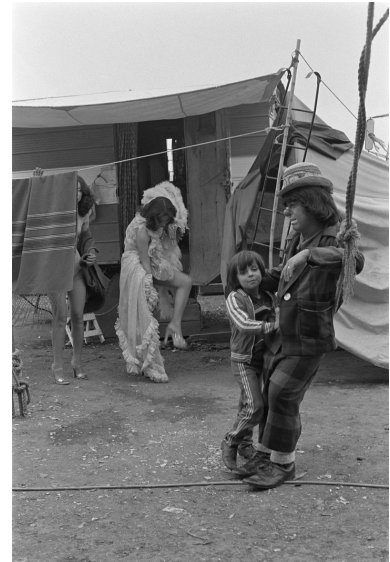
18 NOVEMBER 2017–19 JANUARY 2018

Private View and Brunch: 18 November 2017, 11:30am-13:30pm

Cecilia Brunson Projects is proud to announce the upcoming solo exhibition with Paz Errázuriz. Errázuriz is one of Chile's most internationally recognised photographers. Famous for her photographs which captured life in Chile under Pinochet, the self-taught artist focuses her lens on subjects at the periphery or transgressions of society – the homeless, old, infirmed, or, in her most famous series, *La Manzana de Adán (Adam's Apple)*, male prostitutes and transvestites. 'They are topics that society doesn't look at, and my intention is to encourage people to dare to look'. (Errázuriz)

For this exhibition, we shall be exhibiting a rarely seen series of work. Entitled *El Circo (Circus)*, it captures another group at the margins, circus workers, offering a back door view of the life of the circus. Errázuriz started the series in 1984 and over the following five years she lived for long periods with the members of the itinerant circus caravans that are depicted in the photographs. This embedded way of working, where the artist is not an observer but rather an active part of the group she is capturing, on the inside, has often been repeated in later series of works by the artist and is fundamental to her practice. It represents her approach of dignifying her subjects, rather than objectifying them. The series consists of 28 images and this is the first time that it will be exhibited in its entirety.

When viewing photographs by the artist of this period, it is crucial to acknowledge the context in which Errázuriz worked — the Chilean dictatorship of the mid-1970s and 1980s. Crucially, Pinochet banned international photojournalism — registering life through photography was an act of resistance. Equally, it was not acceptable to be a woman by herself in the streets taking photographs. By undertaking this series, Errázuriz put herself in jeopardy and at considerable personal risk. Equally, in the photographs, Errázuriz presents a singular and striking human narrative in the throes of dictatorship.



Payaso, 1984, printed in 2012
Gelatin silver print, 40.5 x 50.5 cm, Edition 1/6

Born in Santiago, Chile 1944
Lives and works in Santiago, Chile.

Paz Errázuriz represented Chile at the Venice Biennale (2015) and has exhibited extensively internationally. Her recent retrospective at Fundación MAPFRE was on show at the Rencontres d'Arles this year and travels to Museo Amparo, Puebla, Mexico and Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago, Chile. Her work is included in 'Radical Women: Latin American Art 1960 – 1985', Hammer Museum, LA, September 2017 and 'Another Kind of Life: Photography at the Margins', the Barbican Centre, London, February – May 2018. She was recently awarded the highest distinction from the state of Chile, the Premio Nacional de Artes Plásticas 2017.

Errázuriz's work is in important collections including Tate, London; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; Daros LatinAmerica Collection, Zurich; MoMA, New York.