

For Immediate Release  
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## Daniel Canogar

### *Trace*

Oct 28 – Dec 18, 2010

**Opening Reception:** Thursday, Oct 28, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

**Gallery Hours:** Tue–Sat, 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

bitforms gallery is pleased to announce *Trace*, the first solo exhibition in New York of work by celebrated Spanish artist Daniel Canogar. On view will be two large-scale installations, *Spin* and *Dial M for Murder*, also making their United States premiere.

Daniel Canogar has exhibited widely in Spain and throughout Europe. He is perhaps best known for his sculptural projections that use light and fiber optic cables to evoke modern phantasmagoria. Much of Canogar's practice is informed by the tradition of the readymade and he frequently raids dumpsters and sources materials from garbage heaps near his Madrid studio to create photography, sculpture, and installations.

Using discarded DVDs, VHS tapes, computer parts, lenses, light bulbs, telephone wires, and modem cables, the works on view in *Trace* are built on the history of the Nouveau Réalistes' practice of merging art and life. Recalling both Jacques de la Villeglé's ripped film posters and Arman's *Poubelles* series constructed of collected trash, Canogar examines the vestiges of our obsolete and discarded technologies and reanimates them to reveal new meaning.

*Dial M for Murder* is an elaborate network of tape ripped from a VHS copy of Alfred Hitchcock's film of the same name. Forming a latticework of crisscrossed lines spreading across the gallery, a video animation is precisely aimed at these radiating geometries and appears to constantly move along the tape, much as the head in the VCR would have done. A living system becomes apparent, as the animation spirits a narrative forward, evoking a pumping heart, veins and arteries. Reviving this celluloid artifact to dramatic effect, the animation was inspired by Saul Bass' credits for Hitchcock's films, as well as the filmmaker's sawtoothed suspense plots.

Exploring the short life expectancy of the technologies we cast off, *Spin* is comprised of the copied contents of 100 discarded DVDs that are projected back onto their surface, revealing the moving images trapped within the discs. Due to the DVDs' mirrored surfaces, the projections are reflected onto the opposite wall, creating an abstract double of the films. By layering the different soundtracks of the DVDs, an acoustic cacophony rises and subsides throughout the video loop. Turning Benjamin's notion of the work of art in the age of mechanic reproduction on its head, these distinctly utopian cosmologies brim with kinetic energy.

A concurrent exhibition in New York City held at the American Museum of Natural History will feature a new installation, monumental in scale, by Canogar that visually simulates the human brain's synaptic impulses.

### **Concurrent and upcoming exhibitions with Daniel Canogar**

Sep 16 – Oct 30, Palma de Mallorca: *Enredos* at Espai Quatre, Casal Solleric

Oct 24 – Nov 28, Ludwigsberg: *Daniel Canogar: Recent Installations*, Kunstverein Ludwigsberg

Nov 20 – Aug 14, 2011, New York City: *Brain: The Inside Story*, American Museum of Natural History

Dec 2 – Dec 5, Miami: Pulse Miami

Jan 20 – Jan 30, Park City, UT: *New Frontier*, Sundance Film Festival

Feb 9 – Apr 30, 2011, Madrid: *Surface Tension*, Fundación Canal

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## **Biography**

Daniel Canogar uses discarded electronic materials in his photography, video, sculpture and installations, which construct portraits of a society and an age. Finding inspiration in the archeology of new media, Canogar brings the dead back to life, revealing their contained secrets. *Constelaciones* (Constellations), the artist's first major permanent installation, is the largest photo-mosaic ever realized in Europe. Inaugurated in September 2010, the mosaic lines the arching concrete cover of two new pedestrian bridges crossing the Manzanares River in Madrid. Neighbors from the two communities that the bridges have brought together appear floating above the pedestrians crossing the bridge. Other recent public commissions include a large installation for the American Museum of Natural History in New York City that will be completed November 2010; *Travesías*, a large-scale art installation for the European Parliament's atrium in Brussels; a permanent photographic mural in the Arensa Train Station in Naples, Italy; a public projection on Rio de Janeiro's landmark, Arcos da Lapa; as well as video projections on Madrid's Puerta de Alcalá monument and Rome's church of San Pietro in Montorio for the Nuit Blanche festival of these cities.

Canogar's work has been exhibited at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Reina Sofia, Madrid; Palacio de Velázquez, Madrid; Galería Max Estrella, Madrid; Galería Filomena Soares, Lisbon; Galerie Guy Bärtschi, Geneva; Caprice Horn Gallery, Berlin; Mimmo Scognamiglio Arte Contemporanea, Milan; Centro de Arte Santa Mónica, Barcelona; Museo Alejandro Otero, Caracas; Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus; Offenes Kulturhaus Center for Contemporary Art, Upper Austria, Linz; the Kunstsammlung Nordrhein Westfalen Museum, Dusseldorf; the Hamburger Bahnhof Museum, Berlin; The Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh; and the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh.

Canogar holds a M.A. with a concentration in photography from New York University and the International Center for Photography, and a B.A. from Complutense University of Madrid.

### **For images and more information on the exhibition please visit**

[www.bitforms.com](http://www.bitforms.com)

### **Directions to bitforms gallery**

Nearest subway is the C/E to 23rd St in Chelsea

**bitforms gallery** is devoted to emerging and established artists who embrace new media and contemporary art practice.