

Alette Simmons-Jiménez el triunfo de una nóvel cineasta

Por Mery Sánchez Mulet
EL SIGLO

Alette Simmons-Jiménez, pintora norteamericana radicada en el país desde hace varios años, fue la ganadora del primer premio en la categoría de video artístico en la recién finalizada XVIII Bienal de Artes Visuales.

Simmons-Jiménez obtuvo el galardón por su obra titulada "Un par de días en la vida de Julia Ozama", video de seis minutos de duración.

En tan breve tiempo, la pintora y nóvel cineasta logra sumergir al espectador en el asfixiante mundo de Julia.

Aquella mujer de sensualidad desgastada ve pasar las horas desde su imperturbable soledad.

La directora somete a su único personaje a una incomunicación hastiante. La ventana será su único elemento de empate con el mundo exterior. El televisor, medio de comunicación por excelencia de esta turbulenta contemporaneidad, permanece mudo y ausente, no recibe, igual que la protagonista, ninguna señal que lo active.

La vida corre a lo lejos, distanciada de Julia. Afuera amanece y anochece, pero en su habitación el tiempo permanece inalterable.

Julia Ozama ha quedado atrapada por un círculo vicioso de soledad y silencio parecido a aquella rueda de coche que observa desde la ventana.

Alette Simmons-Jiménez utiliza con acierto sus dotes de pintora. Gran parte de los pa-



sajes que se van sucediendo más allá de la ventana fueron pintados por ella y luego animados con la técnica del video.

"Un par de días en la vida de Julia Ozama" presenta con claridad hiriente la terrible soledad y la incomunicación a que a veces son sometidos los seres humanos en esta época de desfrenos y rutina apabullante.

Julia puede ser cualquiera que no logre desenredarse de las tribulaciones de la cotidianidad. Ella representa a aquellas personas que caen subyugadas por los problemas y la neurosis que ellos generan.

Aquellos que no consigan

echar andar el tiempo y no puedan vincularse con la realidad y poseerla, corren el riesgo de desarticularse y quedar inmóviles como la muñeca que sustituye a Julia en la escena final.

Alette Simmons-Jiménez, a través de su video ganador, pasa a ser una cronista de los sentimientos y los temores que embargan su época.

Con ese trabajo su currículo artístico se enriquece. Simmons-Jiménez demuestra su versatilidad y engrosa con un título más la cadena de exposiciones individuales y colectivas que conforman su labor en el mundo de las artes visuales.

El Siglo

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Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Alette Simmons-Jiménez the Triumph of a New Filmmaker

by Mery Sánchez Mulet

North American painter Alette Simmons-Jiménez established in the country for several years now, was the winner of the first prize in the art video category in the recently finalized XVIII Biennial of Visual Arts.

Simmons-Jiménez won the award for her work titled "A Couple of Days in the Life of Julie Ozama", a video lasting six minutes.

In such short time, the painter and new filmmaker is able to submerge the spectator in the suffocating world of Julie Ozama.

This woman with worn out sensuality sees the hours pass by from her unchanging solitude.

The director submits her only character to a tiresome solitude. The window will be her only element of connection to the exterior world. The television, the medium of communication par-excellence of this turbulent contemporaneity, appears mute and absent, it does not receive, as neither does the protagonist, any signal that activates it.

Life goes on far away, distanced from Julie. Outside the sun rises and the sun sets, but in her room time passes unaltered.

Julie Ozama has become trapped in a vicious cycle of solitude just like that coach's wheel that she sees from the window.

Alette Simmons-Jiménez rightfully uses her talents as a painter. A great part of the landscapes that come about on the other side of the window were painted by her and later animated by video technology.

"A Couple of Days in the Life of Julie Ozama" presents with painful clarity the terrible loneliness and isolation that human beings are sometimes subjected to in this time of debauchery and overwhelming routine.

Julie can be anyone who does not overcome being entangled in everyday ordeals. She represents those people that become enslaved by their problems and the ensuing fixations they generate. Those who are not able to make time move forward and cannot possess or join in reality, run the risk of becoming detached and frozen like the doll that replaces Julia in the final scene.

Alette Simmons-Jiménez, by way of her winning video, becomes a narrator of the sentiments and the fears that seize this epoch.

With this work she has enriched her artistic curriculum. Simmons-Jiménez shows her versatility, and with one more title, she solidifies the chain of group and solo exhibitions that make up her work in the world of visual arts.

**XVIII Bienal National de Artes Visuales
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
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Juror's Statement:

1st Prize in Video goes to Alette Simmons-Jimenez and the work "A Couple of Days in the Life of Julie Ozama" a visual exploration realized via a dialogue of the formal elements of video. The constant transforming set is a dramatic character as important as Julie Ozama, the woman-object. The mysterious illumination creates an atmosphere charged with expectations. The editing is full of surprising yet harmonious transitions using the technique of animation as a pictorial element. This video is a mirror unto itself, possessing undisputable brilliance.

Jean-Louis Jorge, Film & Television Producer
Jury Panel Member

