

ILLUMINATING ART... AND PEOPLE

Regina Silveira's name means contemporary art at its best. In a very personal and enticing way. Her art is contemporary by displaying a cutting-edge approach to art, namely the conceptual one, meaning it deals with the idea of *logical beauty*, which is definitely the beauty of early XXIst century.

However, Regina Silveira has opened to her art a very peculiar path, far away from the cerebral and aesthetic indifference of most tendencies of contemporary art. In short, it is not a boring art and it is not a decorative one either: *it says something meaningful to the beholder*. This is something the artist obtains by introducing the representational language in her art: there are figures in her art, figures the public can acknowledge and identify with. An art that most of the times comes with an ironic twist which makes people smile in a rather natural and spontaneous way. This is the case of *Aufklärung 2* (the light bulb attached to a twisted cord) and of *Track Series (Race)*.

In *Aufklärung 2*, where one expects light to come from a straight and orderly device, it comes from a twisted cord, like in a labyrinth : what sort of light is this, what sort of Enlightenment is this? The light bulb is shining, though – it must be a miracle. This is the human *Aufklärung*.

Track Series (Race) shows the impressive skidding imprints of tires attached to surprisingly small toy cars. The skidding imprints are imposing shadows; the childish toys nevertheless minimize its impact, which could be dramatic otherwise. This work is both a recollection of things past and dreamed of and the expression of a wishful thinking: it is a short story of these all too contemporary days.

Aufklärung 1 (with the word LICHT painted and illuminated) is another happy example of Regina's logical beauty: she often recurs to visual and material printed words in order to make people really see what they usually see

without paying attention to it. Light is that which renders things visible – but light itself must become visible and that's what Regina's work is about. This is a work of art and an appeal to more light in the world, underlined by its title. Aufklärung, Enlightenment, one of the most relevant human acquisition, comes in a varied number of forms and it is up to art to remember it and help make it quite clear and visible. In a masterly and aesthetically attractive way, such as Regina Silveira's.

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