oriol vilapuig - The sexual night





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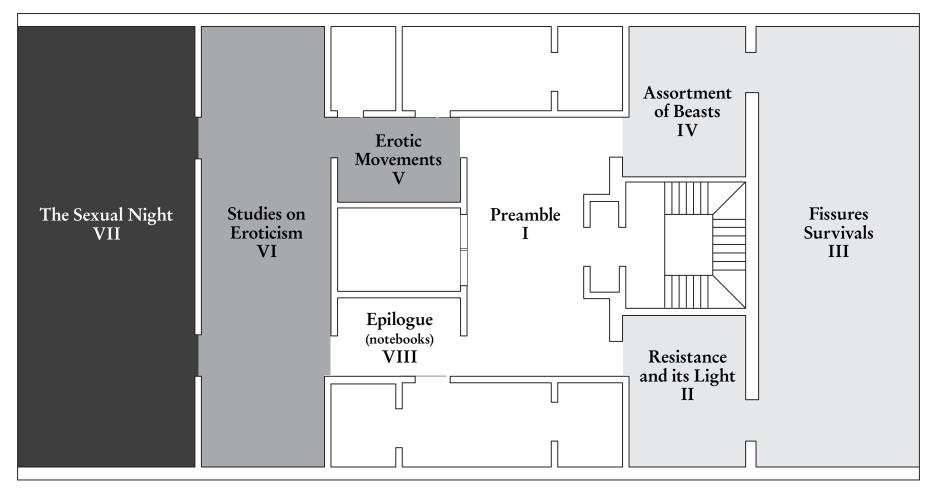
Taking its title from Pascal Quignard's book of the same name, *The Sexual Night* presents a selection of recent works by Oriol Vilapuig (Sabadell, 1964), most of them previously unseen.

Told as a story that splits into two tensions—the same tensions that appear in the opening "gestures": the rictus of laughter and a look staring in the face of horror—the show slowly intertwines these twin strands: on the one hand, several pieces that evoke the figure of Pier Paolo Pasolini and see survival and resistance as existential resurgence; and, on the other, a series of pieces that explore eroticism and its outbursts that verge between shame and shock based on three canonical authors on the subject: Georges Bataille, Pierre Klossowski and Quignard himself.

The methodology of the essay, its tantalising character, as well as its strive for utility, runs through the selected works, which make use of drawing as a language with strong ties to the body. In another sense, montage, citation and appropriation are mechanisms for narrating an instability, those dysfunctions or impurities that link the archaic and the contemporary, fantasy and experience.

The creator of *The Sexual Night* distinguishes three constituent nights: the night before birth, the astral night that falls at the end of day, and an inner night that designates death. From this nocturnal triad burst forth the desire and need to light up images, the urge to reveal absences that call back us and perhaps even besiege us.

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Part I

I Preamble. The Fearsome and the Laughable. Dionysiac Mask. Comic Mask. Theorem. Theory of Two Paradises.

II Resistance and its Light. First Lights. Last Lights. Corpus. Animality, Instinct.

III Fissures Survivals. What I Don't Express Dies. Pier Paolo Pasolini. Purity-Violence-Survival-Iconoclasm-Luminescence-Organs.

IV Assortment of Beasts. Forms of Aggression and Submission. Iconographic Studies. Neocapitalism, Uniformity and Violence.

Part II

V Erotic Movements. Dispossession. Bat-Voluptas.

VI Studies on Eroticism. Bataille. Sexed Bodies. Coitus, weakness, myth. Eroticism–Diana at the Bath–Hypnos–Leda.

VII The Sexual Night. Origin and Destination–The Image We Lack–Fascinus–Night–Birth–Death. Hades and Eros. Uterine Night–Astral Night–Infernal Night

VIII Epilogue (notebooks). To Be Another. Pastiches and Parodies.