

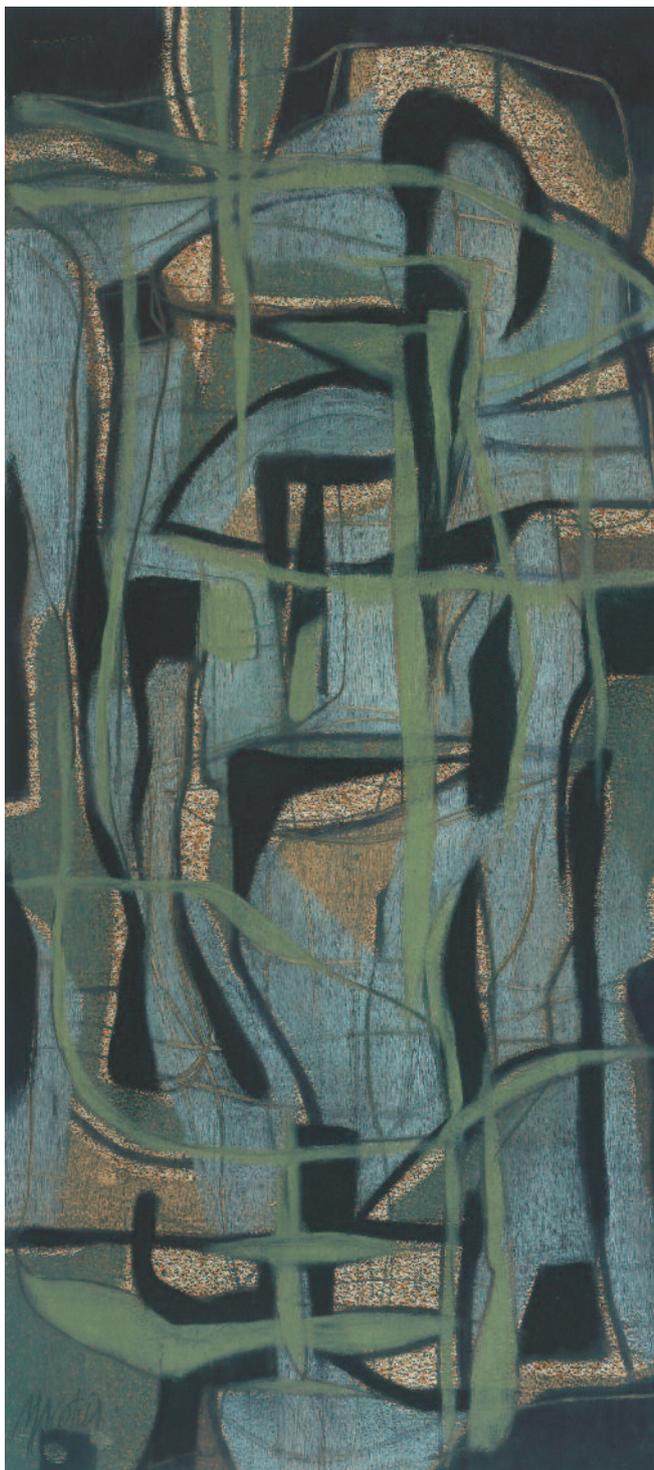
Gabriel Macotela in Brief

Gabriel Macotela is sparing of words when talking about himself; painting and, in a certain way, music, and not words, are his means of expression. That is why he has given us this brief sketch of his life, without dates and precise data, where he is revealed as studious and a traveler, doing everything hand in hand with his art.

Macotela was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, in 1953, where he did his first schooling. Later, his family migrated like many others to Mexico City. When he discovered his vocation for art, he entered the La Esmeralda Art School, where he studied for two years, and then the San Carlos Academy, where he enrolled in the workshop of Gilberto Aceves Navarro's, who he considers his teacher and tutor. A passionate lover of jazz and rock music, before opting for painting and sculpture, Gabriel wanted to be a musician, so he also studied two years at Mexico's National Conservatory. Even though he did not make it his profession, after painting, music is his second spiritual nourishment. In general, he confesses, he is not much of a reader, except for poetry: besides his personal enjoyment of poetry, Macotela has combined his art with the work of poets like David Huerta, Francisco Serrano and José Joaquín Blanco.

Among his meanderings around the world is a two-year stay in Barcelona, where he both studied art and worked in Polígrafa, one of Spain's most outstanding graphic art workshops. In New Mexico, he participated in another graphic arts workshop, Tamarind. And, three years ago, Macotela moved to New York City for several months to work; after his stay in the Big Apple, he dubbed it "a jungle for artists."

He remembers his first collective exhibition in 1977 in the Pecanins Gallery and his first one-man show in an important venue in



Interior Jungle II, 72.5 x 32.5 cm, 2000 (oil on paper).

Mexico City's Modern Art Museum, followed by three more in the Carrillo Gil Art Museum. He has also had more than 12 one-man shows in prestigious venues like the Juan Martín and the Ramón López Quiroga Galleries. In the 1990s, his work was exhibited in Paris's Mexican Cultural Center and the Frankfurt Book Fair dedicated to Mexico. Currently, his work is included in the collective exhibit of contemporary graphics being presented in the Mexico House in Madrid.

Macotela received the Young Artist Prize from the city of Aguascalientes when he was still a student. Later he was given Mexico's National Painting Salon prize and the Cuenca Biennial in Ecuador.

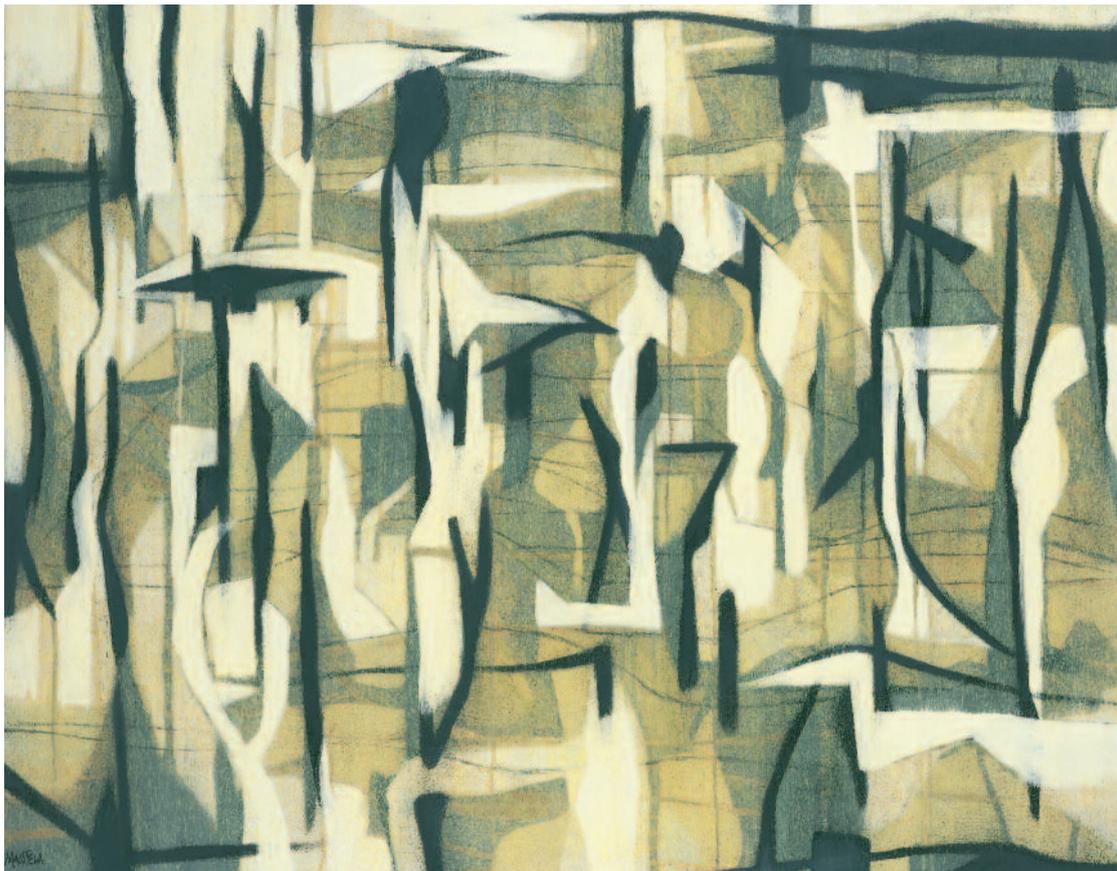
As part of a project to involve and commit Mexican society in the creation of new spaces for making art available to all kinds of people, Gabriel Macotela participated in the founding of the Faro de Oriente School of Arts and Trades

where he designed and gives the sculpture workshop to the inhabitants of one of Mexico City's poorest areas.

He is currently preparing an exhibit with his most recent work scheduled to open in 2002 at the López Quiroga Gallery, which is currently managing his work.

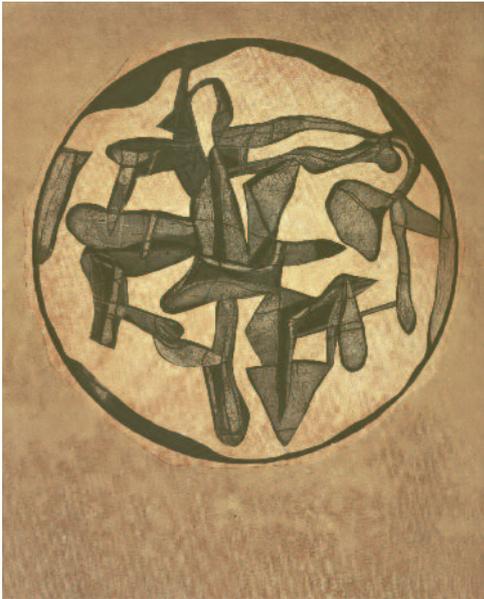
Macotela spends his time in Mexico City working in a study with a window that opens out onto the traditional Mexico Park, accompanied by his music, surrounded by all kinds of objects that he holds dear: series of drawings of his daughter, his own ceramics and those of others, furniture and lamps of his own design and all sorts of items that as a whole reflect a creative spirit that has not limited itself only to painting, graphic art or sculpture. **MM**

Elsie Montiel
Editor



Untitled, 80.3 x 100.3 cm, 2000 (oil on canvas).

One-Man Shows



Sun Coin, 100.5 x 76.5 cm, 1997 (etching and aguatint).



Untitled, detail, 128 x 162 cm, 2001 (oil on canvas).

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| <p>1976 Casa del Lago, Mexico City; Calderón Theater, University of Zacatecas.</p> <p>1978 "Painting and Sketches," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City; House of Culture, Monterrey; House of Culture, Guadalajara.</p> <p>1979 "Minutes," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1980 "Urban Landscape," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1981 "Journey Through the Mirror," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1982 "Crossing: Fabric, Pastels, Objects," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1983 "Daily Horizon," Carrillo Gil Art Museum, Mexico City; Miró Gallery, Monterrey.</p> <p>1984 "Labyrinth, Door, Lock," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1985 "Landscape, House Blueprints," Today's Art Gallery, Monterrey; San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, California; Metropolitan Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1986 "Broken City. Recent Work," Modern Art Museum, Mexico City.</p> <p>"Ten Years at the Pecanins Gallery," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City.</p> | <p>"Journey Through the Etceteras," Traveling exhibit, Mexico City subway stations.</p> <p>1987 "Skies and Characters of Immersion. Ceramics, Engravings, Pastels," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1988 "Smokestacks, Painting, Sculpture, Sketching," Pecanins Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>"Industrial Orchestra," Rufino Tamayo Museum, Mexico City.</p> <p>1989 "Characters and Their Shadows," Mexican Consulate in Barcelona.</p> <p>1990 "Characters and Their Shadows," Mexican Cultural Center, Paris.</p> <p>"Buildings, Characters and Their Shadows," Juan Martín Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1993 "Review of a Little Time in Painting and Sculpture," ITESM Campus, State of Mexico.</p> <p>1995 "Jungle, Recent Work," Juan Martín Gallery, Mexico City.</p> <p>1997 "Coin-Mint-Currency Drain [Exchange Value]," Carrillo Gil Art Museum, Mexico City.</p> |
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Note: This list was prepared by the Ramón López Quiroga Gallery, which currently manages Gabriel Macotella's work.