



LIDO IACOPETTI  
*Imaginante popular*

By Martín Legón

BARRO is pleased to unveil *Cámara*, a new section of the gallery dedicated to the composition of short curatorial essays; exercises in free thinking, authorship-oriented in their edition criteria. The series, devised as an intimate connecting space, bridges the exploration and the foregrounding of works from neglected, marginalized or novice authors in order to let us reflect upon the past and the construction of a future dialoguing with the main program. At this first instance, we have the pleasure to present the study *Lido Iacopetti - Imaginante Popular*, co-produced with Aldo de Sousa Gallery, representatives of the artist, and collaboratively curated by Ángeles Ascúa and Jimena Ferreiro, generous professionals dedicated to the historiographical study of his oeuvre.

The exhibition is a succinct journey across the various kindred periods that the distinctive work of Lido Iacopetti has been unfolding for more than half a century. Some artists spend all their life behind a single piece, polishing an idea until it disintegrates into the experience itself. Iacopetti's case is one of the exceptions; an artist that was not a canonical part of any timeline, but who was eventually proved right by the passing of time. In his work, there are noticeable traces of the format and mood of projects as diverse and genuine as *Economía Colaborativa* or *Belleza y Felicidad*. Without overindulging, Iacopetti naturally combines playfulness and the ethics of its social function, always prioritizing alternative and modest exhibition spaces: his pieces are equally present around schools, hospitals, museums, galleries, small clubs and street stores.

Having hardly left La Plata, Iacopetti built his legacy in the milieu of local art, where good part of the plastic language of the 20th century was able to be vigorously reshaped. Spontaneously, his painting resembles the triumph of a redundant insistence; his ideals have the strength of a bibelot, that small and decorative object with little material value but loaded with meaning.

At his 82 years old, his work could be easily summarized as the balanced fusion between artistic production and commitment to teaching, but this description falls short of depicting all the dimensions and categories in which Lido Iacopetti tried to think about the scope of art to this day. A re-appreciation of his ideas is also the re-appreciation of a utopian project of social construction, a new reality that is accessible yet not simplistic, where life in community can be understood as an unremitting collective creation.

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Curators Ángeles Ascúa & Jimena Ferreiro  
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