



## ASIER MENDIZABAL SP-ARTE / OPEN PLAN

CURATED BY JACOPO CRIVELLI

### EXHIBITED WORKS

*Limbo (Abierto grande)*, 2016  
Iron and rubber, 30 x 40 x 6 cm

*Limbo (Cerrado)*, 2016  
Iron and rubber, 30 x 35 x 8 cm

*Limbo (Lima)*, 2016  
Iron and rubber, 60 x 40 x 8 cm

*Limbo (Abierto doble I)*, 2016  
Iron and rubber, 22 x 56 x 42 cm

*Limbo (Diagonal)*, 2016  
Iron and rubber, 18 x 41 x 40cm

### PROJECTESD

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The project that Asier Mendizabal is presenting at Open Plan consists of a development to the work that he participated with in the 2014 Bienal de São Paulo. Titled *Agoramaquia (el caso exato de la estatua)*, the previous work comprised five large pieces in iron and rubber that reported directly to a lost work of also Basque sculptor Jorge Oteiza (1908-2003). In a speculative approximation to the work of Oteiza, Mendizabal's pieces were perforated planes, as if trespassed by cylinders. Playing with the simulation of an interior space and with the full-empty binomial, these pieces not only consolidated the notion of sculpture as a process of *spatial disoccupation* – basic concept of Oteiza, exemplarily accomplished here – but also signaled the paradoxes by which all the works of his countryman were organized: the impulse to create by way of subtraction, the desire to affirm by way of negation and, ultimately, the mission to make city by way of sculpting.

The works now on show maintain the previous formal approach, but invert their scale and adapt their materiality. Ductile, translucent and much more modest in size, they are instances, states of a transformation that signals a double and paradoxical movement: the gradual revelation of the sculptural structure and its slow, but progressive, disappearance.

**Asier Mendizabal** (Ordizia, Spain, 1973) lives and works in Bilbao. His recent solo exhibitions include shows at Hordaland Kunstsenter (2013) in Bergen, Norway; Raven Row London (2011-2012), London, UK; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, MNCARS (2011), Madrid, Spain; Museum of Contemporary Art, MACBA (2008), Barcelona and *And/Or*, at Culturgest (2009), Lisbon, Portugal. His group exhibitions include the 31<sup>st</sup> São Paulo Biennial (2014); *A Singular Form* (2014), Secession, Vienna, Austria; the 54<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale (2011), Venice, Italy; *The First Circle* (2011-2012), Fundació Tàpies in Barcelona, Spain; *Às Artes Cidadãos!* (2011), Museum Serralves, Porto, Portugal; the 4<sup>th</sup> Bucharest Biennale (2010), Bucharest, Romania; Manifesta 5 (2004), Donostia-San Sebastián, Spain and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Taipei Biennial (2002) in Taiwan.