

# Alexander Gray Associates

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## Luis Camnitzer

### *Last Words*

Art Basel Miami Beach, Art Nova  
December 4 – 7, 2008



*Last Words*, 2008, archival digital print on paper, 6 parts, 66" x 44" each, edition of 3 with 1 AP

**Art | Basel | Miami Beach**  
**4-7 | Dec | 08**

Alexander Gray Associates is pleased to participate in Art Basel Miami Beach in the Art Nova section, with a solo exhibition of recent works by Luis Camnitzer, one of Latin America's most influential conceptual artists.

Luis Camnitzer's remarkable piece, *Last Words* (2008), will be the focal point of the gallery's presentation in Miami. Exhibited to critical fanfare earlier in 2008, *Last Words* is a moving and controversial artwork. In this piece, Camnitzer compiles the last words of death-row inmates in Texas, and remixing them into a lyrical, allegorical art experience. Birth, life death, sin, redemption, and forgiveness are represented, and transcend the political aspects of the piece's source material.

Also on view will be a rotating selection of Camnitzer's highly influential early works, including graphic works, photographs and sculptures from the 1960s through the 1990s. This aspect of the presentation will provide a view into Camnitzer's diverse practice as a conceptual artist, and will illustrate his critical role as a global link between developments of new visual languages in Latin America and New York.

Luis Camnitzer was born in 1937 and grew up in Uruguay, and studied at the Escuela de Bellas Artes, Universidad del Uruguay and the Academy of Munich. Camnitzer's work has appeared in numerous exhibitions since the early 1960s, including individual shows at The Kitchen and El Museo del Barrio, New York; List Visual Arts Center at MIT, Cambridge; and Museo Carillo Gil, Mexico City. Retrospectives of his work have been presented at Lehman College Art Gallery in the Bronx (1991) and Kustshalle Kiel (2003). His work has appeared in biennials and group shows, including *Information* (1970), The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Biennial of Havana (1984, 1986, and 1991); Venice Biennale (1988); Whitney Biennial (2000), Documenta 11 (2002), and *Beyond Geometry* (2005), Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and The New York Graphics Workshop (2008), Blanton Museum, University of Texas.

Camnitzer's work is in the permanent collections of The Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires (MALBA); Museo de Bellas Arts, Caracas; Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Sao Paulo, Brazil; the Museum of Malmo, Sweden; and numerous private collections, including the Daros-Collection, Zurich; the Bruce and Diane Halle Collection of Latin American Art, Phoenix; and the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, Caracas. Camnitzer received Guggenheim Fellowships in 1961 and 1982. A well-regarded critic and curator, Camnitzer is a frequent contributor to *ArtNexus*, and wrote *New Art of Cuba* (1994, 2003) and *Conceptualism in Latin American Art: Didactics of Liberation* (2007). He served as Viewing Program Curator of the Drawing Center in New York (1999–2006) and was co-curator with Gabriel Pérez-Barreiro of the Mercosur Biennial (2007). The Daros Collection is organizing a retrospective in 2010 that will tour internationally.

Alexander Gray Associates is a contemporary art gallery and advising firm based in New York. Our exhibition program focuses on mid-career visual artists who emerged in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Through consulting and collection advising, we provide expertise for our individual and corporate clients. Our ultimate goal is to provide a direct experience with Modern and contemporary art that encourages discourse around art's role in the advancement of culture. Gallery hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM.