



Welcome to **Amigos**, the show created by Martin Creed for Botín and for all those people who want to approach contemporary art from the point of view of confidence. Letting yourself go, opening your senses and enjoying a proposal that goes beyond the walls of the exhibition hall. Are you one of those people? Then go ahead.

Martin Creed was born in Wakefield, England, in 1968. Musician and artist, he uses all the artistic disciplines necessary to express what he feels and what he wants to transmit in a complete way. Language is not enough for him. We can mix colors superimpose images or play two notes at the same time, but we can never say two words in unison to express two concepts at the same time.

So, from this point onwards, you begin to enjoy elements that overlap and compose a combination of actions in time and space. There is not a beginning and an end and no right way to enjoy this exhibition. Just let yourself go and pay attention to your surroundings. Maybe something has changed and maybe, from now on, your gaze towards the everyday will also change. Try it, enjoy it and come back soon because every time you do it the Martin Creed show will offer you new looks.

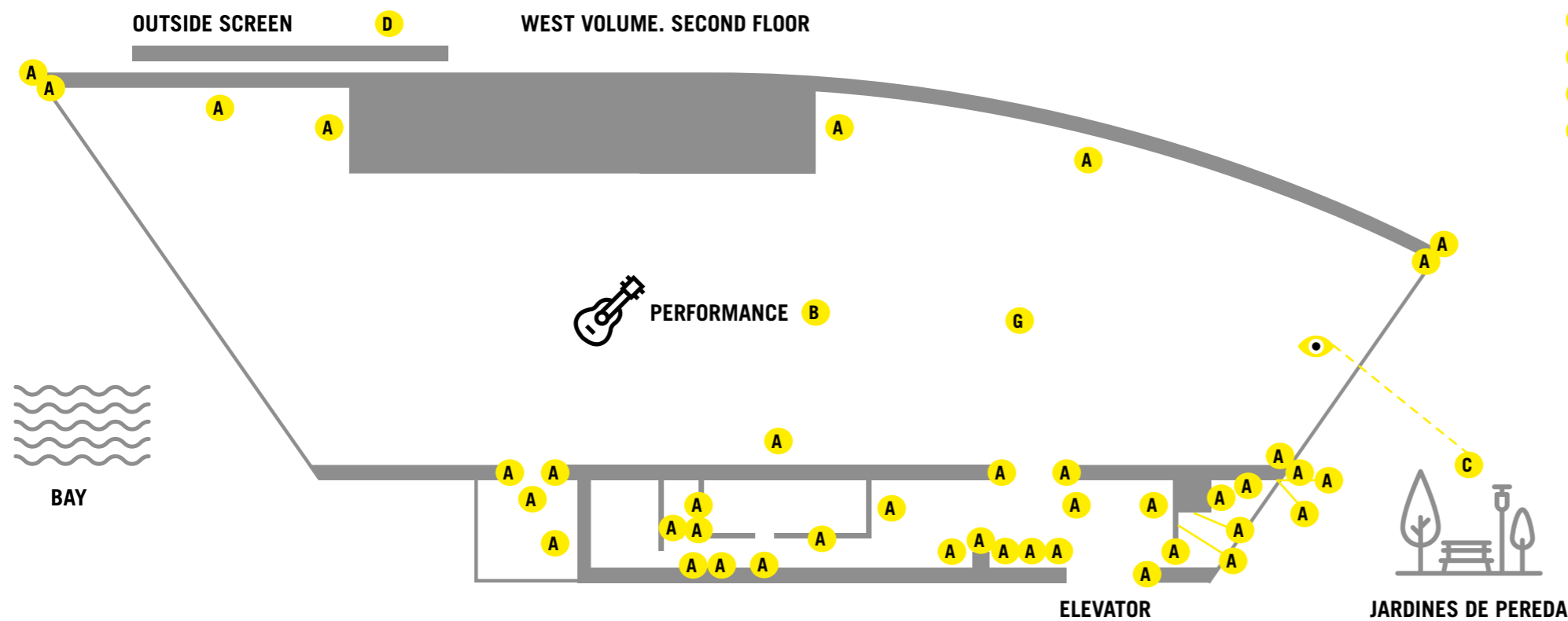
# MARTIN CREED

## AMIGOS

**CENTRO  
BOTÍN  
CENTRE**

**EXPOSICIÓN A LA CARTA**

### LOCATION OF THE WORKS



- A** Wall Drawings
- B** Performance
- C** Work N° 3209. *AMIGOS*, 2019
- D** Work N° 670. *Orson & Sparky*, 2007

- E** Work N° 3211 *Yes / No/ Up / Down 'The Singing Lift'*, 2019.
- F** Work N° 3258, 2019. Staff uniforms attention to the visitor.
- G** Work N° 270. *The Lights Off*, 2001

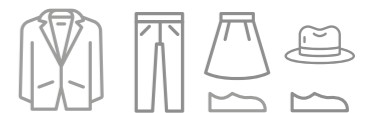
ELEVATOR  
EAST VOLUME

**E**



CLOTHES

**F**



**Work N° 3209. AMIGOS, 2019. Jardines de Pereda.**

Amigos, according to Martin Creed, is the best known Spanish word in the world. Moreover, for him, friendship implies faith, eliminating hierarchies and establishing a relationship of human exchange that enriches both parts. Just what he wants to happen between you and his play.

So AMIGOS is a word and a work at the same time. Do you find it among the trees? Colorful LED strips to draw what summarizes the artist's intentions on this occasion. A space until now unexplored as a canvas. Would you have imagined it?



**C**



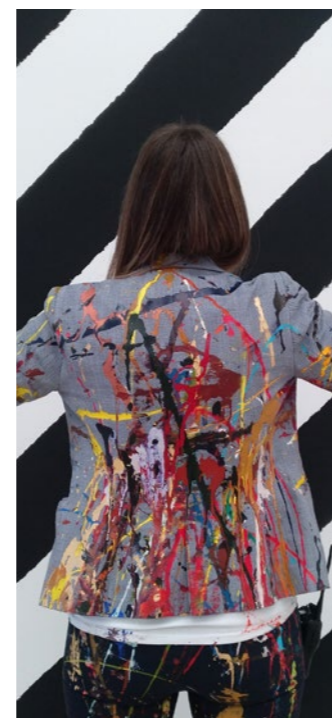
**B**

**Performance. Room 2.**

What happens inside the room is live art. The interpreters are the work and that is why the singers and musicians, in addition to singing and playing, move following very clear guidelines which, if you stay long enough, you will see repeated. This is what is called a performance. The one created by Martin Creed has a duration of 40 minutes during which you can enjoy 19 different compositions. In the course of that time you can move freely through the space and do what your body asks you to do: sit, walk, dance, run or any action that wakes up in you. This is how Martin Creed works: he listens to his inner and he makes decisions according to some parameters that he has previously set for himself.

Proof of this are the costumes of the performers, all of them created by the artist for the occasion (Works N° 3271-3316, 3197 and 3182-3194, 2019) and which respond to some basic rules that are self-imposed:

- Fabrics or garments that already existed. Nothing of create new fabrics for this occasion. Reuse.
- Pieces of clothing that are perfect squares with eyelets, buttons and velcro that offer a thousand ways to put on.
- Men's suits that have to be worn backwards.
- Organza head bags with the form of ordinary plastic bags.
- Equal shoes for all, made to measure, in which the colors are not repeated.



**F**

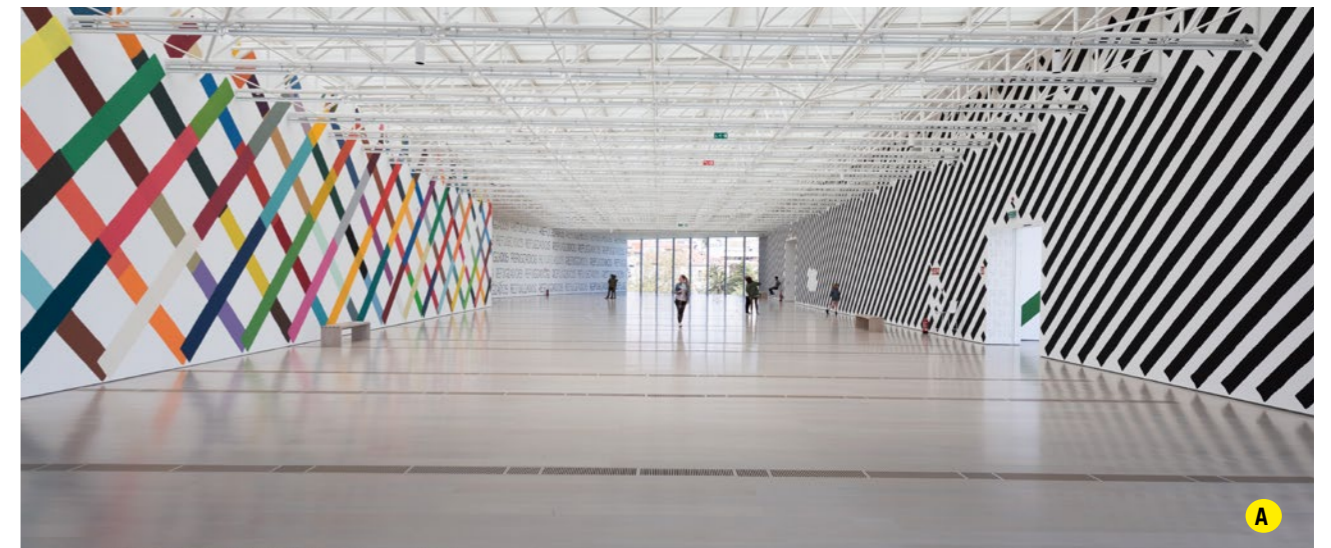
**Work N° 3258, 2019. Staff's uniforms attention to the visitor. Dock, reception rooms 1 y 2.**

The uniforms of the staff of the hall and attention to the visitor were intervened by the artist, while they dressed them, with acrylic painting. A fact that transforms the usual environment for the visitor, but also for the workers themselves. Have you ever been aware of what we change depending on what we look like? Do you behave the same when you dress for an elegant event as you do when you are with lounging clothes?

**Work N° 3211 Yes / No/ Up / Down 'The Singing Lift', 2019. Elevator in east volume.**

Go up in the east volume elevator to the rooftop and enjoy how the view of the Jardines de Pereda or bay changes with height. During the journey try to look for what has changed since the last time you came. Once up, go back down to the Pachinko to go to Hall 2 of the western volume and continue enjoying the show. Now tell us, what does it feel like inside an elevator that sings as it moves? Martin Creed, with his work, presents us simple situations that have not been explored so far. What would you like to get from your home's or office's elevator?

**E**



**A**

**Wall Drawings. Room 2.**

The space in which everything happens is diaphanous because Martin Creed wanted people to enjoy what happens in it, but, also, to know where you are. He constantly seeks to tear down walls and open windows. From there on, he decided to paint all the walls of this floor, no matter how narrow they were and thus get our perception of it changed. In this way you can appreciate, if you go through it calmly, 41 different murals. Some of them are made of colors and geometric shapes and others are composed of words. Each of them is a work that follows a numbering, like all the previous ones. If you are interested you can take the room sheet and see what title/number each of them has.

Geometric murals respond to standards such as:

- Paint exactly of the wall surface taken up by the mural.
- Respect existing objects and to interrupt the painting when he reaches them.
- Do not repeat colors.

Those formed by words have diverse origins. For example, the word SÍ/YES as opposed to the NO that usually comes up in Martin Creed's mind when he hears concrete requests. Or the word REFUGIADOS, which invades one of the walls with the intention of making us aware that in all countries there are refugees and that all of us might, sometimes, be refugees when we flee from something and go in search of a home.

**Work N° 670. Orson & Sparky, 2007. Outside Screen.**

Every half hour, from the opening of the Botin Centre at 10 a. m. to the closing at 8 p. m., you can enjoy an audiovisual piece in which Martin Creed reflects on the time intervals in which our brain thinks and stops thinking, something that is completely particular to each one of us. When does this happen to you?



**D**

**Work N° 270. The Lights Off, 2001. Room 2.**

The last work of this show is a work that is not seen but perceived. Let's see if you are able to realize something that is in all exhibitions and not in this one.

The light, exactly. Continuing with the work for which he was awarded the Turner Prize in 2001, "The Lights Going On and Off", Martin Creed turns off the light of the exhibition hall. The perception that you have of the murals, performers and the AMIGOS light installation, will constantly depend on the natural light coming from outside. This brings us back to the idea of art as a gesture, of Martin Creed's willingness to slightly transform our environment in order to broadly transform our attention towards the everyday.

And with this question our contribution to your visit ends. You can stay here as long as you want and when you leave tell us: how many times have you smiled during this time?

**G**