

# CONCÈNTRIC

# EN

## ALAN SIERRA *VÍSPERAS*

### 13.12.22 - 08.01.23

*Vísperas* (Vespers) is made up of a series of stories inspired by myths that sustain the figure of the creative genius and the origin of masterpieces. Composed of line drawings, the project sets out to fabulate the author's body in order to challenge the patriarchal values that accompany artistic work. Most of the pieces in the series explore the metaphor of male pregnancy in literature and the testimonies of creators, specifically focusing on the rhetoric of authors who refer to their works as 'children' and the creative process as 'gestation' in order to conceal the collective, reproductive, caring work that lies behind the making of books. The project also raises questions about the ability to create living works and the responsibility that exists over these and their future.

The exhibition's economy of means responds to the search for a materiality comparable to that of writing, suggesting a brief reading of the images akin to that of short texts such as aphorisms, jokes and poems. This practice stems from the taking of notes during journeys in a city, conversations with friends and study sessions in public libraries, and it leads to the production of studio sketches until they achieve the desired readability. The use of line drawing in this case – inspired by the Belgian style of *ligne claire* (clear line) – is based on the search for a technique in line with the principles of research: a practice that is more associated with literary illustration and the graphic arts, far removed from the rhetoric of virtuosity, given that it is produced from drawings that are erased and corrected countless times before being inked.

The exhibition brings together an anthology of works on paper that use poetic formulations to provide an account of the research process and personal reflections that have arisen through involvement in analysing the subject. The accumulation of these sheets of paper on a horizontal surface helps to enable a space prior to the final version in which the accumulated content can be edited and ordered without becoming a publication, thereby dismantling expectations about finished works and approaching the idea of a potential book.