ABSTRACT

Latin America is an extensive region made up of more than twenty very different countries, which form a multicultural continent, marked by an abundance of diversities, in a turbulent political frame and with one of the most elevated social inequality indexes worldwide. This context gives rise to one of the major urbanizations in the planet, generating metropoles which are found to be the most densely populated.

The following Doctoral Thesis, titled *Inhabiting the south. The Latin American city at the dawn of the XXI century through its exhibits of contemporaneous art*, analyzes 19 exhibits of Latin American art that have taken place in the decade from 2009 to 2019 in five cities (Bogotá, Buenos Aires, Caracas, Mexico City and Santiago) that have approached the urban theme and in which the socioeconomic context of the area is reflected. Their artists express themselves through various disciplines such as painting, sculpture, photography, installation, video art, performance and actions in the public place, with materials as diverse as paper, fabrics, plastic, dust, wood, concrete, debris, blood, bullet cartridges, flowers and light to, with their creations, show us how they live their day-to-day in these metropoles.

These works, which correspond to more than 150 studied artists, are not exempt from the contradictions of the environment from which they originate. Created under a critical perspective, these works seek to bring us closer to the city with another viewpoint to ignite reflection and promote citizen participation in the public space, this being our meeting place and the most appropriate to debate topics of collective interest.

**Key words**

Latin America, city, art, public space, globalization, culture, urbanity, society.