



**JOSE MUNOZ**  
**Selling exhibition *Encres & Lumières***  
**February 17th to March 18th 2012**

**José Muñoz is a key figure in contemporary comics. Powerful and poetic, this master of black-and-white comics also explores approaches to colour in his captivating illustrations. The Galerie Champaka present these two facets of the “Word According to José” by spotlighting some fifty of his unpublished compositions.**

**The Artist**

Grand Prix winner at the 2007 Angoulême Comics Festival, José Muñoz was born July 10th 1942 in Buenos Aires. Initially influenced by Alberto Breccia and Hugo Pratt, he quickly develops a graphic style as innovative as it is inimitable. In Carlos Sampayo, he finds the creative companion of a lifetime. Blending violence and poetry, their graphic novels (*Alack Sinner*, *Le bar à Joe*, *Sophie*, etc.) address the human condition, for better or worse. *Le croc du serpent* and *Panna Maria* are the fruits of his collaboration with Jerome Charyn. With *La Pampa y Buenos Aires*, a collection of drawings from various periods, Muñoz embarks on a return to his Argentine sources, confirmed by his biography of Carlos Gardel (written by Sampayo) and by the luminous illustrations he has created for the exhibition *Encres & Lumières*.

**The Exhibition**

The upper floor of the Galerie Champaka is devoted to the illustrations. Dreamy women, tango dancers, Patagonian skies and urban landscapes unfold through his diverse techniques. Approaching seventy, Muñoz still has all the daring of a young man. The proof is in his abstract « landscape-visions » which plunge us into the primal magma, the great ocean depths and the ice of Tierra del Fuego. As if they had emerged from mother nature's womb...

The lower floor presents around thirty original pages of museum quality. A line from *Alack Sinner's* life sits next to a musical device dedicated to Billie Holiday and Carlos Gardel, not forgetting major extracts from the collaborations with Charyn and one of the most moving pages from *Sophie*.

**Galerie Champaka**

27, rue Ernest Allard  
B-1000 Bruxelles - Belgium  
Tel : + 32 2 514 91 52  
Fax : + 32 2 346 16 09  
sablon@galeriechampaka.com  
www.galeriechampaka.com

**Opening Hours:**

- Monday and Tuesday:  
by appointment
- Wednesday to Saturday:  
11.00 to 18.30
- Sunday : 10.30 to 13.30

**Press:**

Viviane Vandeninden  
Viviane.vandeninden@klach.be  
Tel: + 32 2 351 26 10  
GSM: + 32 472 31 55 37