

Kisses for Mariscal!

September 29, 2004

Together with a Dutch travelling theatre festival, Bathroom Mania! has offered a 'Kisses!' urinal to the famous Spanish illustrator/designer Javier Mariscal, as a publicity stunt for the 'Boulevard of Broken Dreams' festival in Barcelona, Spain.

'Estudio Mariscal' is a diverse company and there are photographers, interior designers, editors, architects, computer specialists, typesetters, illustrators and creative consultants working together on many different projects. One of Mariscal's most famous designs must be 'Cobi' the mascot for the Olympic Games of 1992 in Barcelona. To show you his diversity, in the eighties Mariscal has also exhibited with the Memphis Group with some furniture designs.



Meike's personal report of the meeting with Mariscal!

In July of 1999, shortly for the beginning of my final year, majoring in illustration, my father strongly urged me to visit the Studio of Mariscal while vacationing in Barcelona. According to him a good example of what more an illustrator can do besides making drawings. Seeing 'Estudio Mariscal' and what was being produced there made me realize that there was much more to my profession than school had shown me. Having seen the studio inspired me to combine illustration with 3-d design. Actually I firmly believe that if I hadn't visited Mariscal's studio, the 'Bathroom Mania!' series probably would have not existed today.

So when the director from a Dutch traveling theater festival 'de Parade' asked me last summer, if I would be interested in helping them promote the festival in Barcelona by offering a urinal to someone famous in Barcelona, I didn't have to think twice... I would be honored to give Javier Mariscal the first production 'Kisses' urinal!

On September 29th 2004 are we standing in sunny Barcelona at 'Estudio Mariscal'. He doesn't know 'Kisses' yet, but thinks it's great fun, and wants to have it installed at his studio right away! We are shown all the projects he is working on at the moment: a prototype of a chair for kids, two children's picture books and the sketches for the next one. Funny to see how he -now he has twins of three years old- produces a lot of articles for children. His heart and soul are being put in these books; he reads enthusiastic from his own work! Hilarious! Mariscal also designs hotels and restaurants and focuses on making the restrooms out of ordinary and exciting. When we leave an hour and a half later, we are being asked where he can order the 'Kisses' urinal...

A very inspiring afternoon with a very inspiring company and a very inspiring man, full of new ideas! An afternoon to remember, and full of new energy and inspiration we leave his studio.

Meike van Schijndel

p.s. Want to know more about Mariscal? Surf to: www.mariscal.com !

