

PRESS RELEASE

Albarrán Cabrera
Very Subtle Light

Exhibition 20.01 – 13.03.2021**Opening reception** Due to the sanitary situation and the curfew, the openings will take place:
Wednesday 20 January from 2 pm to 5 pm
Thursday 21 January from 2 pm to 5 pm
The gallery is open to the public from Wednesday to Saturday, from noon to 7 pm.

Text by
Florence Pillet

Used to travelling, Spanish duo Albarrán Cabrera has adapted its pace to the exceptional situation we are all facing. It is in the intimacy of the studio and the laboratory, in this cocoon of quietness and introspection, that they have found the inspiration they need. In return, they generously nourish their audience on social networks, publishing their photographs, but also sharing quotes and references, books, films, artworks, that open windows in this time of isolation and confinement to remind us that art and nature are wonderful consolations for troubled souls.

Under the title *Very Subtle Light*, the opening exhibition for 2021 at the Esther Woerdehoff Gallery presents a new selection of their works and reveals their latest research to the public. In addition to the precious printing technique that has established their reputation among world collectors - a pigment print on Japanese gampi paper and gold leaf - other experimentations, chosen with mindfulness for each image, are also presented: silver prints, early cyanotype or platinum-palladium processes, the addition of mica and precious pigments or toning of the prints. For the first time, the artists also present the results of a brand new process : prints made on glass, a genuine "photographic object" that evokes the primitive processes and gives a fragile and transparent materiality to the image.

Chosen from their different open series, the works on show unveil Nature in a cosmological vision that evokes the earth, stones, oceans, trees and flowers, animals. All these things that bind us to the planet as humans made of stardust, recent inhabitants of an ancient but fragile world, of a planet that is only a "pale blue dot" in the infinity of the cosmos. Through shadows, game of light or colors, their photographs always keep a part of mystery, a freedom given to the spectator for his own interpretation, his own emotion he can feel and relates to his experiences and memories. Through their works, Albarrán Cabrera invites us to "re-establish our relationship with the oceans, the Earth and Nature as a whole", a message essential to our humanity and for too long ignored.

This exhibition will also evoke their latest book, published this autumn in Ateliers EXB "Des Oiseaux" collection.

Their books are available at the gallery :
Des Oiseaux, Atelier EXB, 96p. - 35 €
Remembering the future, RM editorial, reprint, 64p. - 55 €

Text by
Albarrán Cabrera

"What is space? It's nothing other than very subtle light"
-Proclus Lycius (8 February 412 – 17 April 485 AD)

We perceive the space through the interplay of lights and shadows, to such an extent that the fifth-century AD Neoplatonic thinker Proclus Lycius, declared that space and light were the same thing. He defined the space as a "subtle light"; the space is light, subtle, transparent, that wraps the bodies and shapes them.

It is generally believed that to have a "good light" one must have "a lot of light". It may seem that more light will allow you to see the space better, but the quality of the light is even more important than the quantity.

A photograph represents a specific space. It is usual to think that the photographer is always trying to find the right scene when in reality we are always trying to find the "right" light. Light is "right" when its quality and quantity are appropriate for the space and is able to shape it.

We wanted to show here a set of images where this "subtle light" acquires particular significance showing us reality in a renewed way.

Swedish cinematographer Sven Nykvist, director of photography for Ingmar Bergman, says in his documentary Light keeps me company: "Light gives me a feeling of spiritual atmosphere. Light is with you –you do not have to feel you are alone."

Press visuals

Albarrán Cabrera, The Mouth of Krishna #787, 2021
Toned cyanotype on glass with gold leaf, 26 x 17 cm
Edition of 15

The use of images is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition and valid up to its end.

Obligatory mention: © Albarrán Cabrera, courtesy Galerie Esther Woerdehoff

Press visuals

Albarrán Cabrera, The Mouth of Krishna #424, 2020
Cyanotype on glass and mica, 17 x 26 cm
Edition of 15

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Press visuals

Albarrán Cabrera, The Mouth of Krishna #743, 2020
Pigment print on gampi paper and gold leaf, 17 x 26 cm
Edition of 20

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Press visuals

Albarrán Cabrera, The Mouth of Krishna #807, 2020
Pigment print on gampi paper and gold leaf, 26 x 17 cm
Edition of 20

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BIOGRAPHY

Artists

Albarrán Cabrera

Both born in 1969 and living in Barcelona, Anna Cabrera et Angel Albarrán have been working together for almost twenty years and form a rising duo on the photographic scene. Together, they develop a photographic universe, poetic and sensible where the emotion from the subject meets the beauty of the print. Experts in alternative printing processes and photo preservation, they frequently use historic processes such as cyanotype, platinum-palladium and other analogic technics but also invent original processes that they combined with precious materials like Japanese papers, pigments, minerals or gold leaf. Questioning identity and the traces the camera keeps of the past, their various open series evoke our relationship to time and memory and our perception of the photographic image between reality and illusion.

Solo shows

2021

Very Subtle Light, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Paris

2020

An Ethereal Glow, Marshall Contemporary, Los Angeles, USA

There was never a time when we didn't exist, Nailya Alexander Gallery, NYC, USA

2019

Someone lived this, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Paris

Subtle Shadows of Bamboo on Bamboo, Ibasho Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium

2018

Albarran-Cabrera, Nailya Alexander Gallery, NYC, USA

L'indistruttibile Galleria, de'foscherari, Bologna, Italy

Aspects of influence, Dada Object Trouvé, Barcelona, Spain

Remembering the future, Bildhalle Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland

2016

The Mouth of Krishna, *This is you*, Kairos, Unseen, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Why all the time, Galería Valid Foto, Barcelona, Spain

This is you, Kochuten Gallery, Japan

2015

The Mouth of Krishna, *This is you*, Unseen, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The Mouth of Krishna, Photomed festival, Lebanon

2014

The Mouth of Krishna, Kochuten Gallery, Japan

2011

Blow up, Festival Photomed, Sanary, France

Ceci n'est pas une cité Méditerranéenne, Festival Photomed, Sanary, France

2010

Safety in Solitude, Fotogaleria Zoom, Santander, Spain

Group Shows

2020

Festival of Light, Nailya Alexander Gallery, NYC, USA
Fernweh, Bildhalle Gallery, Zürich, Switzerland
Wabi Sabi, Ibasho Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium
Tree of Life, Nailya Alexander Gallery, NYC, USA
Beyond the obvious, Ira Stehmann Fine Art, Munich, Germany

2019

Paris Photo, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Paris
Seaside, Bildhalle Gallery, Zürich, Switzerland
Infinite Spirit, Kahmann Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Color of Light: Fifteen Years of Nailya Alexander Gallery, Nailya Alexander Gallery, New York, USA
Icons, Bildhalle Gallery, Zürich, Switzerland

2017

Paris Photo, Galerie Esther Woerdehoff, Paris
Explorations – New Positions in Photography and Photorealism, Micheko Gallery, Munich, Germany
 Art Paris Art Fair, Paris

2014

This is you, (I have Photos, therefore I am), NYC United Photo Industries Gallery, NYC, USA
This is you, (I have Photos, therefore I am), Tokyo Institute of Photography, Tokyo, Japan

2013

Secret Places and small Details, Valid Foto Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
Collect the World, Valid Foto Gallery, Barcelona, Spain

2010

ARTtrust Space, Village des Rencontres d'Arles, Parc des Ateliers, Arles, France
 O.F.N.I. project, Valid Foto Gallery, Barcelona, Spain

2005

AlbarranCabrera, Hewlett-Packard Exhibition Area, Sant Cugat RandD Site, Sant Cugat del Vallès, Barcelona, Spain

2004

Fundación de Ferrocarriles Españoles, Itinerant Exhibition: Madrid, Granada, Seville, Cáceres, Valladolid, A Coruña, Oviedo, Bilbao, Santander, Logroño, Barcelona, Valencia Murcia and Toledo, Spain

Awards

Remembering the future, Best Spanish book awards, PhotoEspaña 2019, winner of the José Lázaro Galdiano Award 2019.

LensCulture Competition Winners, Portrait Awards 2017

Finalists in Kyoto at the Hariban Award 2015 with the portfolio of *The Mouth of Krishna*

Finalists in Tokyo at the International Photography Festival 2014 with the *This is you here* portfolio

Publications

Remembering the future, text by Amanda Renshaw, RM editorial, 2018

Pequeñas melodías, with music by Federico Durand, éditions IIKI, 2018

Des Oiseaux, text by Guilhem Lesaffre, Atelier EXB, 2020

Pale Blue, artist book, coedited by the(M) éditions and IBASHO, 2020