

The Dance of the Opium Poppies Poppy Studies

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Dream Remedie

You show up unannounced
Sweet communion
Between dusk and death
body to forget
Were you the ship or were you the sea?

A fleeting glance
Whispers of silence
You come disguised
white and delirious guide
for a journey without return
Were you the storm or were you the tide?

While I drink you in
I forgot that we knew each other
sweet memories
And that we danced
While it rained
Were you the awakening or were you the mermaid?

Bitter heady scent
Of a dream I never had
interrupted the moment
A still image in the dark
Suspended by the thread of time
You left me broken without saying goodbye
Were you the wave or were you the wind?

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The installation presented in Twin Gallery is part of an ecological project entitled A Growing Wave Breaks in the Shore of Time (Tomorrow I was a Plant) in which plant systems, specifically plants with psychoactive effects, in this case the Opium Poppy, act as narrators of their own ecological stories from a non-binary, eco-feminist, non-anthropocentric and non-hierarchical position. It focuses on ancestral botanical knowledge, cosmologies and mythologies and the entheogenic use of medicinal plants and the history of consciousness told in the first person, trying to establish a direct and unmediated communication with the plant, using a variety of resources such as the ingestion of microdoses of poppy tincture, for the creation of a choreographic, performative, sculptural and textual work (poems) where the internalisation and channelling of the plant is carried out using the body as a vessel. In this way the Opium Poppy becomes a collaborator in the creation of the choreography, which follows the rhythm imparted by the effects of the poppy: relaxation, time dilation, euphoria, in which a change of space/time coordinates is produced that connect with the world of dreams and altered states of consciousness. The installation in the gallery shows some of these elements materialized in the tapestry, the threads of the fabric are impregnated with poppy dye and the ceramic sculptures have been made and painted by hand with clays and glazes containing cultivated soil and fragments of poppy, seeds, petals, and latex. These sculptures and paintings act as pictorial gestures that propose a relationship with both the plant and human body. It is a self-generated artistic process, which follows a fractal trajectory, not only in time but also in space. The image woven into the textile work is a collage of fragments of images documenting past performances, set in a Californian desert landscape generating performative processes that reflect on the interpretations of Google's Artificial Intelligence entity, Deep Dream, a hybrid future speculation of the actions of the present under psychoactive effects.





















































