

Alma Herbarium
MARIE DENIS

June 12TH

July 24TH 2021



47 rue de Montmorency - 75003 Paris
Vernissage: June 12TH
Opening hours: Tu-Sat 11am - 7pm

Paris, May 6, 2021

Preface

"Discover who you are and do it on purpose" Dolly Parton

Sorella,

In the spring of 2009 in the exhibition of our dears Emmanuel and Adrien, I came in red tights to ask you for a cigarette, you who were then nursing your second newborn.

You thought then: she is quite too much but I like the red tights!

And here we are, 12 years already passed, and we celebrate our silk wedding.

With Robert Filliou's mantra as our shoulder strap: *art is what makes life more interesting than art*, we navigate in the big 8 of life making projects, exhibitions, leading hand in hand the substance of the form: beauty, achievement, whatever the hard moments are and the stones in the shoe.

For so goes life, and its *valse à tous les temps*.

Today, as a spring gift, you are offering me a June exhibition, I love June, its rise in light and promise of summer, we need endorphins and dazzle so much after these masked winters.

Sorella, you told me: "put your heart on the table and tell".

We are more than a month before the exhibition, I draw it, I perceive it in its contours and its objects of bravery, but it moves and dances under my eyes.

It adds and subtracts itself: there will be Prints obviously, in my obsessions of "unorthodox stamped herbarium", sculptures too, in these subjectivities dear to my heart, made of chiseled assemblies, drifts of forms and coring of time. Manifest, meditated and radical forms.

Because I like to take up, make and unmake, reinvent "the poignant form".

To capture this irreducible freshness that speaks to children and to the eyes of those who have seen so much.

There will also be full color or black and white masks, the herbarium always on the bone that mixes the tangible with the abstract, the graphite in black thread, and also the mineral dream that dialogues with the amazing pen.

In this idea of the biologist, who under the magnifying glass of his microscope captures life under glass, here stratified in a cabinet of the botanist, landing in the space of the gallery, in the purity of is as in a chapel.

"Alma Herbarium" invites us to look behind the glass and enter.

With you. See you tomorrow,

Marie

Alma Herbarium

Alma (variants: Almah, Allma) is a mixed name with multiple origins. From the Latin adjective almus derived from the verb alo, alere ("to nourish, to raise, to feed") and meaning "nourishing, beneficent, encouraging".

It invokes Mary for the Christians, the name is also present with various spellings in the Hebrew and Arabic cultures where it means respectively "the young girl" and "the learned one".

Alberta Pane Gallery is pleased to present the sixth solo exhibition by Marie Denis in its Paris venue. Marie Denis has always worked on metamorphoses. Those that the time and her taste for paradox impart to materials, those that the artist brings to plants, since nature is at the center of her work. She explores different techniques to fix the images of an ephemeral world on more or less conventional supports.

For this exhibition, the artist invites us to dive into her plant universe using the technique of printmaking in an "unorthodox" way. She also presents a series of "masks" resulting from the sensations experienced during the confinement to question us on the use of the mask beyond the current health crisis.

Her works testify the strength of a dialogue between nature and her own body. Like Circe, she attempts to create what she calls "an alchemy of points of view" and deploys the forces of nature - of her own mineral and telluric nature -. A force that challenges and haunts our gaze with a sort of urgency and not without a touch of anarchy. The artworks of Marie Denis guide us through the eyes of a woman who has decided to open her pores to the soul of things and their metamorphoses.

Born in 1972 in Ardèche, France, Marie Denis studied at the École de Beaux Arts de Lyon. After a residency at the Villa Medici at the end of the 90s, her work has been presented in numerous public and private institutions in France, Italy and internationally.

Among her exhibitions we can mention *Le goût de l'Art - l'art du goût* at the Château du Rivau in Lémeré, France in 2020-2021, *10x100* with Giovanardi SPA in Italy, *L'Été photographique de Lecture* in 2019; *De fils ou de fibres* at the CAC de Meymac, *L'Impermanence* at the Fondation Fernet-Branca and *Simulation*, at the Magasins Généraux in Pantin in 2018 ; *Le Désir* at the Alberta Pane Gallery in Venice, *L'Herbier de Curiosités* at the Centre d'Art et de Nature de Chaumont-sur-Loire, *Comme une Fleur* at the Centre Culturel Aragon, Oyonnax, France and *Dans le Royaume de l'Eau, la Brodeuse d'Eau*, in Bodenburg, Germany in 2017 ; in 2016 *L'Herbier Noir* at the Galerie Alberta Pane in Paris and *Paysages Sublimés* in Clamart and the Xth Biennale de Gonesse; *Dispersion* at the MACVAL in Vitry-sur-Seine in 2009; *Inclinaison III*, at the CIAP in Vassivière in 2007. La Maison Rouge (2009) and the Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature (2017) hosted her works in group exhibitions in Paris. *The door open to all windows* at the French Cultural Center in Cambodia in 2005 and the Nuit Blanche in Paris in 2004.

Among her works and sculptures in the public space we can mention *Le Saule qui chante* presented during the Eldorado edition of Lille 3000 in 2019, *Madame rêve*, at the French Institute of Jakarta in Indonesia in 2014, the intervention during the Nuit des Musées at La Monnaie de Paris in 2013 and *Le bonzaï de Liz* at the Parc de Madame Elisabeth in Versailles in 2009. In 2006 her playful and dismountable sculptures were presented at the Parc de la Villette in Paris.

A catalog will be published in 2022 by Alberta Pane Editions.

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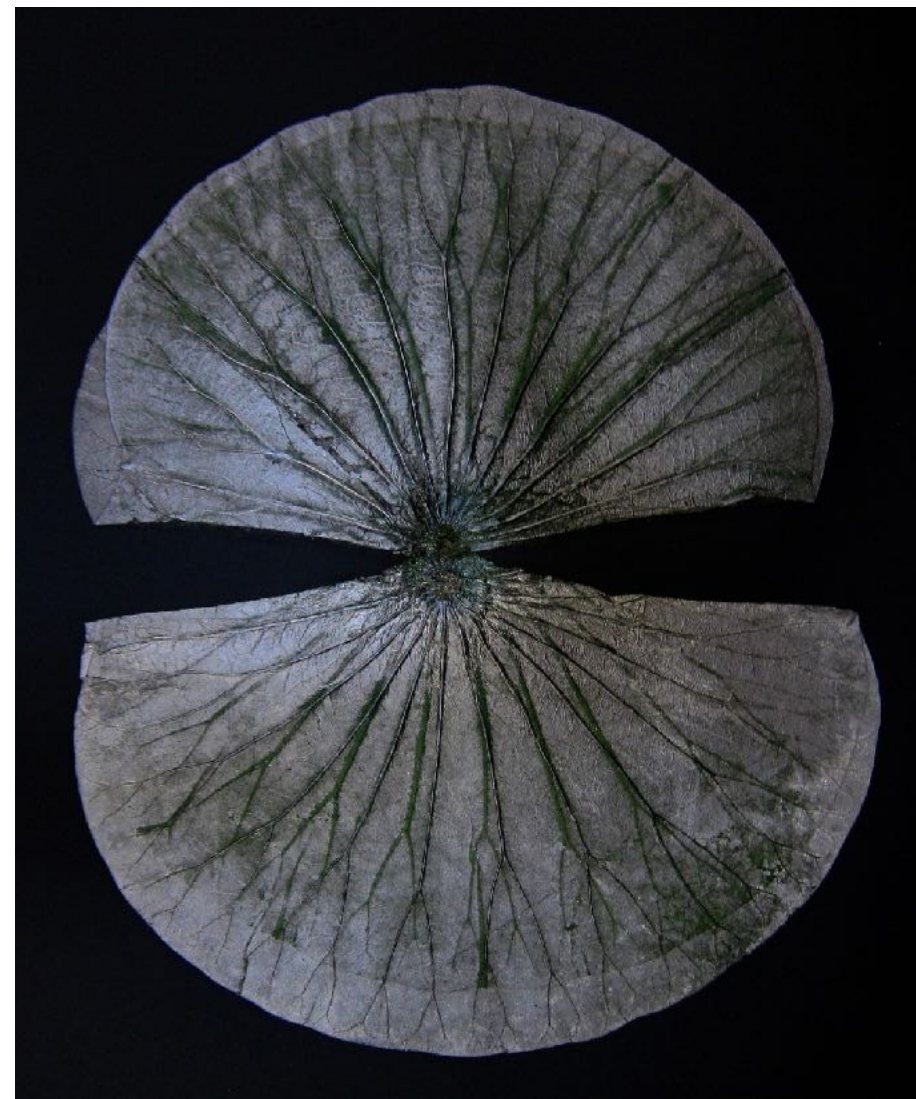


L'herbier lacustre, herbier de curiosités
2019
160 tirages sur papier couché 100g aimantés sur
rampe acier sur mesure
41 x 29 cm chacun



GALERIE ALBERTA PANE
47 rue de Montmorency - 75003 Paris
Calle dei Guardiani 2403/h Dorsoduro 30123 Venezia
info@albertapane.com / www.albertapane.com

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L'herbier estampe
40 gravures encadrées
entre 18 x 24 et 70 x 80 cm

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Herbier de curiosités
2017
Vue d'exposition
Domaine de Chaumont-sur-loire,
France



I giardini di Marzo, 2008
Patio de la Maison Rouge, Fondation Antoine de Galbert, Paris, France



“La Psyché”,
2006 Domaine départemental de Chamarande, Essonne, France



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info@albertapane.com - albertapane.com