

MARGARIDA SARDINHA

WAVE-PARTICLE HYPERLIGHTNESS

Opening June 7th, 7pm

Exhibition 8th – 29th June 2018 | Monday - Friday, 12pm – 7pm

Ocupart at Espaço Camões da Livraria Sá da Costa | Praça Luís de Camões, 22, 4th floor, Lisboa

Margarida Sardinha presents her new work, Wave-Particle HyperLightness, comprising an animation film, six light-boxes and a hologram display, demonstrating the illusion of kinetic movement. In this exhibition, each of Margarida's work applies her usual kinetic analogy of movement's illusion between object and observer, connected to quantum mechanics core paradox of understanding wave and particle properties.

"It seems as though we must use sometimes the one theory and sometimes the other, while at times we may use either. We are faced with a new kind of difficulty. We have two contradictory pictures of reality; separately neither of them fully explains the phenomena of light, but together they do." - Albert Einstein

This duality appeared for the first time in the XVII century when the Huygens and Newton debate concerning the nature of light and matter emerged. It is understood in the showcase as the counterpart of body-spirit duality linked to alchemical and sacred geometry symbolism. HyperLightness ad Absurdum digital animation film, being the foundation of this series of works, compares eastern and western symbols of faith by rendering them as possible aperiodic oscillations of light particles (photons).

Produced in 2011, Wave-Particle HyperLightness was Official Selection of 26 film festivals worldwide winning several awards, including Hollywood Reel Independent Film Festival; Creative Arts Film Festival, USA; Great Lakes Film Festival, USA; Bridge Fest, Vancouver. The movie won the prize for Best Religious & Spiritual Film, at the Directors Circle Short Film Festival, USA. It also got an Honorable Mention at the 23rd New Orleans Film Festival, and a Merit Prize at the Lucerne International Film Festival.

Neil McConnon, London, 2018

The work of Margarida Sardinha is constantly evolving. The medium can range from digital projection to animation, light-box and installation. Margarida's latest works involve holographic techniques. As an artist, the driving force behind all these devices is an uncompromising quest for understanding and making sense of existence; space, time and matter. The various methods employed are but tools along the way, to be utilised where they can be to visualise the journey, making real and capturing moments that might usefully be termed absorption, contemplation and ecstasy.

Margarida's journey is one of constant exploration, an archaeological quest of discovery, mapping out interior journeys for us, visualising aspects of the landscape that plays such a vital part in our existence.

This exhibition sees a new medium enter this mix, holography. The 'image' in this case oscillates before us, floating like a rogue planet. As in previous works, the concern is to demonstrate the illusion of kinetic movement, where the viewer places herself in the midst of the scene, a spectacle that arrests, seduces and hypnotises the participant. These are hard won images, arrived at through extensive research, spanning cultures and millennia, including studies in symbolism, physics, comparative religion and mythology. Ultimately however, they rely largely on grasping instinct, perception and feeling – feeling one's way through forces that may well be beyond our mental reach.

Philosophy seems to find its conclusion in religion and Margarida finds solace and inspiration between these inter-connected worlds.

Margarida Sardinha (Lisbon, 1978) is an independent artist and director, who studied, lived and worked in London for ten years. She attended Fine Art Combined Media studies at Central Saint Martins College of Art and at Chelsea College of Art and Design.

Her experimental movies awarded several prizes, including the Best Cinematic Vision Award at the London Film Awards, with the movie "London Memory multi+city".

Some of her most important individual exhibitions are: Hyperbolic Hyparxis, at Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa (2017); Symmetry's Portal, at Carousel-London, Ismaili Center of the Aga Khan Foundation, Casa da Cultura Jaime Lobo e Silva (2014-2016); Darkness Reflections (2003-2004) at Casa Museu Fernando Pessoa, Lisbon.

Margarida was also part of several collective exhibitions, including Reflections, at the Opera Gallery (London), curated by Neil McConnon; Pan-Demonium, at the AC Institute (Direct Chapel, NY); Red Bull Music Academy Showcase (London); Bienal Jovens Valores at Galeria Viera da Silva.

Margarida is also a founding-member of the London based pARTart collective, and the curator of her exhibition London Recycled, at the Menier Chocolate Factory. In 1999, she won the prize Jovens Criadores do Ministério da Cultura e do Grupo Novas Ideias. Many of her works are part of public and private collections.

<http://www.margaridasardinha.com>

Neil McConnon (UK) is Head of International Enterprises at Barbican Centre, London. He is responsible for conceiving and producing some of the most challenging and successful exhibitions in Barbican's history, developing major projects that launch in the UK and tour internationally. He has worked with some of the world's leading cultural organisations – as co-producers and partners. Previously, Neil worked as a practising artist, freelance curator/consultant and at the ICA London. He has a BA Fine Art and Design (Central St Martins School of Art, London) and an MA Curating (Goldsmiths' College, University of London).