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Spot home gallery

di Cristina Ferraiuolo

opens

Ápeiron

the first solo exhibition

by **Dimitra Dede**

from October 28, 2021 to January 28, 2022

Opening October 28, 2021

Via Toledo, 66 - Napoli

in the presence of the artist

On Thursday, October 28 2021 Ápeiron, the first solo exhibition of the Greek visual artist Dimitra Dede, opens at Spot home gallery.

Born from an idea by Cristina Ferraiuolo, who curated it together with Michael Ackerman, the exhibition displays 63 works resulting from a long-term journey of artistic research, that has led to the recognition of Dede as one of the most interesting interpreters of contemporary photography.

Ápeiron – from the ancient Greek à, absence and peras, border – is understood as the principle, infinite and eternal, from where all things originate and where they dissolve. It is the key concept around which the entire artistic production of Dimitra Dede revolves, well reflected in the quote by the Greek writer Nikos Kazantzakis: “We come from a dark abyss, we end in a dark abyss, and we call the luminous interval life.”

Dimitra Dede's photography exists within and outside of this dark universe. Lost in time and space, her images seem to emerge from an undefined elsewhere, ultimately dissolve before our eyes. They are intimate and universal at the same time, as they evoke profound questions about the meaning of life, the ephemeral, and death.

The exhibition includes images from her critically acclaimed first monograph “Mayflies”, as well as other unpublished works. Amongst these, the series “Dragon House”: the poetic tale of an impervious voyage back “home”, an archaic place abundant with myths and memories to cherish and pass on.

About her work Christian Cajouille says: “Dimitra Dede is clearly one of those photographers who use the world and their experience of space, people, time, shapes, to produce images that express their feelings, and stem from a deep necessity. In her case, the light invents details and sculptures in a dark world and captures silver grains to create vibrations in grey areas, caressing curves and lines, producing emotion and surprise. In her photographs, a hand, a body, a glacier, a female sex, clouds, a face, a tree, a body or a rock are equivalent. Pretexts to make an image, to provoke it, to generate it. Dimitra Dede considers them as raw material that she works, scratches, transforms, and mutates so as to create a world that exists only in the image, a floating world anchored to a disappeared reality.”

The expressive power permeating her work is caused by the violent and

tormented creative process of manipulation and alteration of the images. The artist attacks the negatives with chemical burns, wax, fire, solarization and paint. She exploits anything at her disposal as a means to impress on her work the signs of her own suffering. The transmutation of matter then becomes a cathartic process that allows her to cope with pain and reach harmony by reassembling fragments of her existence as a woman, daughter, mother and artist.

For the prints, made by François Le Blond, Dimitra Dede chooses two different paper supports. One is a thick textured cotton paper, which gives back the opacity and the mystery of her work. The other is the precious Taizan, a slightly transparent Japanese paper, thin, yet exceptionally resistant: an assonance with a maternal feminine that combines fragility and strength, love and care.

- **Biography**

Dimitra Dede is a London-based visual artist working mainly with photography. She studied photography and holds a postgraduate diploma in New Media. Her practice combines painting and the use of chemicals with photography. The making of the imagery is based on an intuitive process. Her subject matter quests the connection between space and time, memory and displacement, loss and human vulnerability, life and the Absurd. Her work has been presented in galleries, museums and festivals in Europe, USA and Asia. Her book 'Mayflies' was nominated for the Author Book Award at The Rencontres d'Arles Book Awards 2020 and for the Unseen Dummy Award 2018 at the Unseen Festival, Amsterdam.

The opening of the exhibition will take place on Thursday, October 28, in the presence of the artist, from 12 pm to 8 pm (reservation is required, via www.spothomegallery.com). Entrances will be limited according to the Covid-19 safety measures. The exhibition will be open by appointment only until January 28, 2022, reservation available via our website www.spothomegallery.com or via e-mail at info@spothishomegallery.com.

SPOT HOME GALLERY di Cristina Ferraiuolo
ÁPEIRON
Dimitra Dede
from October 28, 2021 to January 28, 2022

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RESERVATION REQUIRED via the website www.spothishomegallery.com

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