

Antarctic, 2005-2006

A project made in collaboration with the National Direction of the Antarctic (DNA) and the Institut Valencià d'Art Modern (IVAM)

ICE BLINK

Back in my studio, I reflect on the experience I've witnessed in that world of ice and deep waters; I don't know how to explain the appeal that such an extreme and challenging environment has for me. The Antarctic — wild, romantic, temperamental, occasionally even inaccessible to itself, boundless and occasionally cruel and excessive, for better or worse. I've now seen that the heart of the Earth beats strongly under the sweeping white mantle, that frozen mountains and ice floes exist, that the moon also ploughs through those seas, that glaciers are bards of light and air. The essence of poetry. The ideal place that, in the words of my friend Carlos Lara, complements the burning ice within our bodies, that can purge or consume us.

All journeys are, in themselves, a creative act. My natural disposition is open and receptive to what I discover along the way. My experience in the Antarctic was especially intense because there my inclination to head towards the unknown and unexpected was more real than anywhere else. The Antarctic is adventure, risk and hardship, which are essential in all forms of creation. Thanks to the internalisation, the assimilation and externalisation of these new experiences, our senses soar and realities begin to take shape.

Pamen Pereira, 2006