

THE SECRET HARMONY OF THE INVISIBLE

The beginning of the trajectory of Pamen Pereira – a young Galician artist established in Valencia – was marked in the early eighties by the use of materials such as water, oil or light, employed in installations of great symbolic and poetic weight, which were to define her later development. In this evolution, the object loses its leading position in favour of the two – dimensional picture, a large – format work that stemmed from a photographic surface on which she modified or manipulated the underside of leaves, ribs, carnal images, by drawing or superimposing referential motifs, emotional prints, in each of a mental – rather than a purely visual – effect.

Yet, in the process of employing the pictorial medium as an instrument of reflection and inquiry, of biographical self – projection, in her latest works those photographic backgrounds become neutral white spaces, and from the void emerge objects drawn with smoke, elements with intense allegorical weight. The frozen re – elaborated image, the real object captured in its physical presence though questioned in its temporary existence, has become a black flaring silhouette, the profile of a negative secured in its aura. Thus the work becomes a new query, a new stigma of what is existential, contingent, of time and energy, of life and death.

Written with the spontaneous honesty of a patient, solitary and precise meditation, these black igneous silhouettes are the witnesses to a profound spiritual quest, the referents of a medium in search of the reason, the whys and wherefores. Fire purifies, it eliminates what is contingent in order to find what is essential; the artist is involved, perceives this and speaks to us of the secret harmony of the invisible. She is an artist of silence, a creator of images, and alchemist or a visionary sorcerer, to whom we afford the opportunity she needs to speak to us about life, about the order of the invisible harmony of existence. An artist with the profile, the strength and the conviction of a fragile, gentle woman who is at once vigorous, authentic and sincere.

Rosario Sarmiento

