

The Simultaneous Spaces of Absence

Artist: Oana Coşug

Opening exhibition: 20.10.2018

20.10.2018 – 30.11.2018

Curator: Cristina Stoenescu

Anca Poteraşu Gallery

www.ancapoterasu.com

*"Haire into leaves, her Armes to branches grow;
ant late swift feet, now rootes, are lesse then slow"*
(Ovid's Metamorphosis)

Oana Coşug's latest drawings will be presented in her first solo show at Anca Poteraşu Gallery in Bucharest. The exhibition reveals an organically built universe in the artist's expanding body of work, where phantasmagorical characters slowly emerge in-between frames and pages. Oana Coşug's artworks conjure other-worldly sceneries of painful absence, longing explorations and manifestations of desire.

The materials employed in making the drawings are carefully chosen by the artist, from the different pigment powders to the paper surfaces unto which diffused shapes overlap into seemingly ephemeral images. The show will feature a rich selection, presented as a kaleidoscopic view of the paradoxical narrative infused into the artist's recurrent visual characters and settings, reminiscent of William Blake's complex mythology.

Allowing the viewer to submerge into the would-be magical realism of her drawings, we explore imageries of yearning and solitude, intertwined in lyrical transformations. Unto the background of vegetal landscapes, outreached arms and twinned bodies alternate with roots, cage-like constructions and branches. The artist builds a story of conflict and silent despair in the midst of a continuous loop of mystery and wonder. There is no before and after in this narration, no linearity outside of the drawn contours that lead us from one page unto another and back again in a mysterious succession of events. Sometimes, silently, hidden from our sight, an elusive silhouette appears, covered in a mantle containing its whole world unfolded upon itself.

Oana Coşug (b. 1979 in Romania) lives and works in Brussels, Belgium. She studied painting at the National University of Arts in Bucharest and then she decided to continue her studies in Brussels. In 2009 she obtained her master degree in Theory and Practice of Art at Académie Royale des Beaux-Arts in the Belgian capital. In 2012 she was awarded the First Prize within the International Biennial of Contemporary Drawing Namur, Belgium (ex aequo: Oana Coşug and Anya Belyat-Giunta) and was selected for CanvasCollectie/ The RTBF Collection in Bozar.

Oana Coşug had numerous group shows in Brussels (B-Gallery, Galerie Actionfields, Art'Contest, Croxhapox in Gent, Galerie d'Ys and Artitude), and Bucharest (The National Museum of Contemporary Art, Apollo, Anca Poteraşu Gallery, Căminul Artei, etc.). Solo exhibitions (selection): *Hidden* (Rivoli Building with Artitude Gallery, 2018); *Landscape* (Artitude Gallery, Brussels, 2015), *Drawings* (ICR Tel Aviv, Israel, 2014), *Paintings / Drawings* (Visual Art Museum, Galaţi, 2012), *Blue face* (Artsenzafine Gallery, Milano, 2010), *My shadow* (Artsenzafine Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, 2008), *ExPosition* (Atelier 35, Bucharest). She participated in different art residencies (Destelheide, Tescani, Delta Dunării, Gent).