



THE FIRE IN THE MIND Diana Vives

Over the last two years, fire has been the theme of my Master's in sculpture at the National School of Fine Art, which resulted in this body of work.

My project set out to make fire stronger again. I have chased it through time, across physical and psychic landscapes. I have considered the link of the imagination, and the connection between time and matter, through the air of things and the precise landscape in a world of entangled matter.

Fire, ever since it was first harnessed, has played a pivotal role in shaping human cognition and desire and, consequently, in reshaping the Earth. My creative process brings the two issues through a lens that is sympathetic to new materialism, locational paradigms and neo-sticism.

The materials with which I have worked were all mediated by fire and are freighted with metaphor. Some, like igneous rock, originate from the Chthon, like clay or metal, are shaped by it. Wood, however, is central to my material concerns. Trees and timber, accorded in our culture to the rank of emblematic human. Both, in the roots of individuals and collective

...bring with them their own complex histories of climate, displacement and appropriation.

...I have formed them from the knowledge of earth and desire that seems to register, like a compass, and magnetism, memory and imagination, vision and culture, past and present. The 'mind' that all elements of knowledge originate from is a whole, made of the meeting of related to form, which however, is not the essential form of the material world, they represent and represent matter in order to locate and compare, and through the gift of consciousness and language to understand and express our position and potential, individually and as a species.

As to heat, this is an inherently project. This is not a thing, but an element, but a process of transformation. It can bring the life, the death of the material, and through the gift of consciousness and language to understand and express our position and potential, individually and as a species.

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