

Press Release

RIANA RAOUNA Gallery is pleased to present the exhibition “The poetry of the Earth is always alive”. Through paintings by 14 international artists, the exhibition explores the symbiotic relationship between nature and the human body. It also celebrates the unmistakable beauty of the natural world and comments on the planet's vulnerability. The exhibition title is inspired by a line from the poem “On the Grasshopper and the Cricket”(1884) by John Keats, where the poet acknowledges the beauty of the natural world to bring them solace, peace and joy.

Dimitra Bouritsa transforms her canvas into a fairytale world populated with ambiguous creatures - part human, flower, or animal while Cécile Duchêne Malissin merges reality and fantasy, transforming the canvas into a poetic reverie. Seungkyung Oh, Taedong Lee and Tibaut Bouedjoro Camus explore ideas of heterotopia, memory and dreams where the sublime beauty of nature engages the viewer's imagination. In her figurative paintings composed of plants and flowers, Eliza Wisnieska cherishes their beauty and reflects upon nature's endurance to survive within the hostile environment of contemporary life, while Eugenia Cuellar reflects upon the human need to escape in the healing embrace of the natural landscape.

Golnaz Afraz and Beshar Koushaji explore the inner worlds of women and comment on socio-political issues such as the unequal treatment of women in Iran and nostalgia of a lost home in Syria respectively, where nature acts as a protective veil.

Influenced by the Romantic masters and the Sturm und Drang literary movement, Lukrezia Krämer's atmospheric and elusive landscapes aim to capture the ephemeral quality of the moment, while Rhea Standke zooms into the microcosm of flowers to create ecstatic works that suggest boundless existence. Through many layers of natural mineral colours, Marina Olympios transforms the canvas into a mesmerising contemplation regarding the formation of the cosmos. Jovita Majewski's fluid and ambiguous compositions evoke water and air, subtly reflecting on the consequences of climate change, while Ebuka Pascal Agudiegwu addresses the environmental challenges through symbolism in his figurative paintings.

Together, these works serve as poetic reminders of our inseparable bond with the earth, affirming that “The Poetry of the Earth” is, indeed, always alive.

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