

Coco Gordon, seeing beyond the visible

Research between nature and ecological sensitività

Presentation by Sandro Bongiani

The solo exhibition entitled Coco Gordon, "Art, nature and ecological sensitivity" curated by Sandro Bongiani presents a series of unpublished works born from researches started from 1961 onwards and continued in the course of more than fifty years of activity up to those recent ones made appropriately with the aim of creating a strong impact on ethics between thought and behavior and between mind-body-spirit integration in which writing or cutting, often, are a vital and integral part of the work itself.

Coco Gordon / SuperSkyWoman of Italian origins, is one of the most significant American "intermediate" artists. You have roots in the "Fluxus" movement. At the center of her many works lies the intention to create awareness of the ecological and social problems of our world. In addition to the research of performance and Exploding Books, cut and open, in recent years she has dedicated herself to working with a certain diligence even in digital, producing particular visionary works. At the center of her many works is always the intention to create awareness of the ecological and social problems of our planet. With the practice of performance, and digital dream research, the artist demonstrates his close proximity to natural processes and expresses the desire to create a radical change from consumerism and the daily economy of exploitation so that making art and practicing in nature are two compatible activities, which linked together, can work to modify collective awareness and rediscover a common primary experience linked to our creation.

The common thread that binds the works featured in this solo show is precisely the theme of the environmental challenge, a global urgency under the sign of sensitivity and sustainability. A research, carried out for a long time with works, environmental interventions and performances up to the recent works of landscapes and split and hybrid visions of beings born from unusual metamorphoses suggested by a visionary tension that conditions and suddenly transforms the visible into a dark essence.

For some time now Coco Gordon has been investigating nature, between painting and performances, such as, for example, with the painting "Cocktail Party" used to eat at lunch, table setting, from 1961, with the "Performance nel Paesaggio" from 1978, and then with 1984's "Air fire water", "Pender Island finding food. Earth ", or, with " Seeking Water ", set-up on the rocks in Pender Island, Canada in 1984. With the performance " Finding Food "on the rocks of Pender Island in Canada he lived on the island for a whole month in a tree without ever leaving the place, getting food every day in the forest of "Miners Lettuce". Nature is a theme deeply felt by Coco Gordon as well as the representation of man in

which reality is altered by the particular digital processing to become a deformed and mysterious presence of man

As for the landscape also the representation of man, begun in 1962 with the work "Bottom left Fisherman", the artist proceeds towards metamorphosis transforming the visible into an unusual imaginary appearance, bringing out the hidden part of reality in a sort of rebirth from the darkness of the night. The solicitations emerge by chance in a dark territory between the known and the unknown in which the image of reality loses knowledge of the real data to transform itself into beings who can share, even for a single moment, the lightness of the provisional apparition.

The American artist has always investigated the dark interweaving between thought and memory, between vision and contradiction of existence in a momentary granting of the image and then immediately denying it and relegating it to the margins of the visible. A precarious condition in which the investigation turns into suspension and uncertainty, in which anything can always happen. Of course, it is a continuous and unusual proceeding to investigate the hidden part of the visible in which relationships and fragments of meaning that can be defined "in the form" of an image emerge. Sandro Bongiani

Coco Gordon / SuperSkyWoman / Short biography

Coco Gordon (Genoa, 1938) lives and works in Lyons, Colorado. She is also known as SuperSkyWoman she is an artist, poet, performer, editor. After having supported the exponents of the Fluxus group in the years of her greatest activity, she has long been engaged at the head of a group of aggregation on the issues of the territory, nature, biological, systems of life (Permaculture). She has published 46 books including Radical Food, Hip Hop Solarplexus, SuperSkyWoman, TIKYSK, and Life Systems, a montage of 41 artists working to create a healthy planet. Coco Gordon has been active and an integral part of the Fluxus movement since 1982. She is the artist, she is dedicated above all to the production of artist books with works exhibited in Vienna by Kunst Kanzlei and at EMILY Harvey in NY and Venice. She is very active and has participated in several international art biennials in Venice. In many years of work he has produced numerous performances, such as the one held in 1983 in Reggio Emilia at the foyer of the Municipal Theater, the New York installation with guitar dated 1984. In June 1984 Coco Gordon participated in the event The charm of card organized by Pari & Dispari. In 1993, with other artists, she presented at Casa Malaparte in Capri a daytime installation and a night installation called LUN'AQUA. In 1999 she was invited to give a performance at the 48th

International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale. In 2003 Coco Gordon participated in the collective with 130 artists, conceived by Pari & Dispari A pillow to dream. In 2020 she is invited to do a performance entitled "EXPLODING RED PIANO KEYBOARD installation in progress" at the Spazio Visioni Altre in Venice. For some years she has been making cut books. The Cut / Shared Books are Coco Gordon's latest artistic production. The artist cuts, notes, draws, giving a new shape and a different interpretation to the book. In 2020 a great event is presented by the Bongiani Art Museum Collection at the Spazio Ophen Virtual Art Gallery in Salerno an exhaustive and complete retrospective with 72 works, from 1958 to 2020, which define the entire artistic path carried out by this original and important artist American.