

Dominique Lacloche



Leaf IX, 2020. Silver gelatin print on Gunnera Manicata leaf, 205 x 235 cm (framed)

Dominique Lacloche (b. 1960 in Rome) is a French artist, living and working between Paris and London. For more than 20 years, Lacloche has been photographing fragments of landscapes and developing the negatives onto giant *Gunnera Manicata* leaves, a species of South American plant that has been in existence for 150 million-years and is distinctive for its disproportionate leaf size, measuring up to 2 or 3 meters wide. Lacloche first happened upon the *Gunnera* growing by a lake in Yorkshire. She began a series of monumental works made by photographing the reflection of the plant's leaves upon the surface of the lake, and then printing the images back onto the leaves which are covered in light sensitive material, effectively turning them into giant photographs. Each leaf is unique and the process is long and unpredictable, making it part of its magic.

Lacloche's method is exploratory and empirical: an initial experiment of photographic revelation on the giant *Gunnera* leaf generated the first 'image-leaf'. It is through light that this unique plant and photographic technique converge – the unpredictable nature of organic life and of chemical 'life' plays out through both photosynthesis and photographic revelation.

The images revealed on the leaves are most often of landscapes reflected in water. Over 20 years, her camera has intuitively edged closer and closer to the surface of the water. The images have slowly mutated from figurative landscape to reflections of branches disturbed by the ripples of the water. The images revealed on the leaves have become compositions of sinusoidal lines and abstract signs, like unknown calligraphy waiting to be deciphered. At our scale, the images are encompassing and poetic, absorbing us in their reflection.

Dominique Lacloche

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- Solo Exhibitions**
- 2017 *Urpflanze*, International Museum of Emeralds, Bogota, Colombia
 - 2015 *GURU - Draw this world*, Loo & Lou Gallery , Paris, France
GURU - Gunnera Variations , Loo & Lou Gallery , Paris, France
 - 2013 *Un degré plus haut*, St Paul St Louis Church, Paris, France
 - 2010 *Reflections*, Artwars Project Space, London
 - 1997 Solo show, L'Espace Caretz , Paris
 - 1987 Solo show, Cadogan Contemporary Gallery, London
 - 1986 *Out of Afghanistan*, Agnews, London

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- Selected Group Exhibitions**
- 2020 *Synergy*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
Time Suspended, Curated by Carrie Cunningham - London
 - 2019 *Botanica*, Tristan Hoare, London, UK
Loo & Lou Gallery Booth at Just LX, Lisbon, Portugal
 - 2018 Loo & Lou Gallery Booth at Art Paris, Paris, France
 - 2016 *Rencontres improbables (secret encounters of Kusama Kalthoum)*, Oqbo Gallery, Berlin, Germany
 - 2010 *blablaba*, Chapelle St Sauveur, Issy les Moulinaeu, France
 - 2009 *beneaththepavement...The Beach.*, Artwars Project Space, London, UK

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- Collaborations**
- 2012 - 2021 Collaborates writing sound compositions with Thomas Bottini, researcher in Musicology at the institution C.N.R.S
 - 2013 Production designer on the feature film *The Narrow Frame of Midnight*, by Tala Hadid, screened at The London Film Festival, Sundance Film Festival, Rome, Film Festival, Berlin Film Festival, Toronto Film Festival
 - 2010 Curated the exhibition 'blablaba', multimédia installation in the St Sauveur Chapel, Issy-les-moulineaux, France
 - 2010 *Over your cities, grass will grow* by Sophie Fiennes, a documentary on Anselm Kiefer, selected at the International Cannes Festival
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Art Fairs 2022 Masterpiece Art Fair with Tristan Hoare Gallery, London

 2019 Arco, Lisbon

 2018 ARTPARIS, Grand Palais, Paris

Press 2013 *Dominique Lacloche*, AnOther Mag