

AMY d Arte Spazio
05 nov _ 12 dec.
Opening 05 nov. h. 18.00

ALESSANDRA BOOK. A SONG FOR OUR ANCESTORS **CONCEPT BY ANNA D'AMBROSIO**

Dealing with the theme of mourning is an uncomfortable choice.

In the Milanese gallery Amy d Arte Spazio , in the Brera District , goes Alessandra Book's photography is on show at her debut in Milan.. The title, *A song for our ancestors*, is touching and seems to introduce us into an ancestral story . The exhibition develops like a narrative , in which the viewer finds himself immersed in the large space of the gallery with a deliberately spare, bare layout; groups of photographs give life to four wall installations each consisting of five or more works, printed on Matt Fine Art paper, each in a different format not yet framed because affection is not yet ready to become memory and simulacrum. The exhibition is completed by two large prints, a video and a hollow circle structure from which light emerges.

Subjects of the works are memories and parts of wild and abstract, entropically processed. The result is an effective confrontation between man, his becoming and nature in a circular dimension of precarious equilibrium.

In the work *A song for our ancestors*, the story is posed as a fictional space and relational practice in which memory can perform its creative restorative function.

At the heart of this work is the conviction that memory and narration are the fundamental tools that the artist has to experience, to experience change and, therefore, to have a greater hold on oneself.

Memory is at the centre of the process of understanding and taking responsibility for the meaning and direction Alessandra wants to give to her past, with the possibility of equipping herself with a new narrative capable of restoring continuity.

"The power of memory does not reside in its capacity to bring back to life a situation or a feeling that actually existed, but in a constitutive act of the mind linked to its present and oriented towards the future of its elaboration".

Jacques Derrida, *Memoirs for Paul De Man*.

Conceiving spaces of elaboration and paths of meaning in a transitional and hesitant space-time where a powerful transformation takes place, this is what we set out to do by presenting *A song for our ancestors*.

The exhibition is enriched with a critical text by Kamil Sanders, curator of the exhibition.

Alessandra Book was born in 2001 in Rome. In 2023, she completed her Photography studies at the IED in Rome, in the same year she was a finalist at the Ragusa Foto Festival and her thesis work was published in *L'Espresso*. In 2024, she was among the five winners of the DrivingEnergy Prize, promoted by Terna, and her work was exhibited in the halls of the Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome. She is currently studying History of Art at the Sapienza University. Her photography is linked to intimate stories, which intertwine with the author's biography to expand towards universal themes.

