



Coming up at XVA Gallery – 'Rooted in Drawing', an exhibition featuring the works of Elizabeth Dorazio

Join us from October 21st – November 30th, 2023 to experience the fusion of nature and art at Elizabeth Dorazio's 'Rooted in Drawing' exhibition, where intricate pyrographed wooden collages meet handmade woolen tapestries.

Curatorial Statement

Nature is the raw material of Elizabeth Dorazio, an artist who adopted drawing as a means of expression. Handmade paper, reused wood, textile fibers serve as a support for images that the artist composes from a vast repertoire collected from scientific publications and the internet, images of manifestations from nature - observable or intelligible.

The artist operates according to a logic that presupposes the multiple and the multidimensional. This enables her to reconcile disparate elements such as the structure of a microorganism or the arrangement of a constellation. A piece of work by Elizabeth Dorazio may condense images of human organs, single-celled bodies, ecosystems, galaxies and fossils, or traces of life forms that replicate in DNA chains. In *Rooted In Drawing*, Dorazio presents new work from the series to which she has dedicated herself over recent years. From the *I Went on a Trip* series, it presents tapestries produced in collaboration with FBMI artisans based on original collages that also generated the photographs displayed here. In Elizabeth Dorazio's production, collage ascends from the procedure of drawing by cutting out images with scissors, a procedure adopted in compositions that evoke marine life. Panels from the *On Nature* series are also displayed, with pyrographed designs on fragments of discarded wood from furniture or decommissioned shipping vessels

Magnólia Costa – Curator

About the Artist

Elizabeth Dorazio lives and works in the United Arab Emirates and Brazil with an art practice that deploys drawing, collage, woodwork and installation to explore the mysteries of human relations to nature and the cosmos. Her work often includes collaboration with traditional arts practitioners from around the world. Dorazio studied visual arts at the Fundação Escola Guignard BH in Brazil. She subsequently trained in ancient Italian art techniques at the Istituto per l'Arte e il Restauro, Florence, with additional training at the Abendsschule, Städtelschule in Germany. Dorazio's practice centers on mixed-media works and installations. To skim through her myriad bodies of works is to glimpse a fascination with instability, shifting surfaces, the cosmic, the organic, the cellular, skin. While she remains faithful to a certain technical classicism (drawing, etching, the use of egg tempera), she also disrupts through material (x-ray fragments, chair caning) and scale. Upstream, her works are process-driven; on reception, they seem urgent and interactive. She has exercised her skills as a curator in the exhibitions *Existenzielle Korrespondenzen* (Frankfurt am Main/São Paulo, 2016), *Blue Connection* (Frankfurt am Main/São Paulo/Sorocaba, 2010-11) and *Schweizer 9* (Frankfurt am Main, 2008).

Past solo and group exhibitions include:

2023 Louvre Abu Dhabi, UAE; 2022 Dan Galeria, SP, Brazil; Warehouse421 Abu Dhabi, UAE; 2016 MACS, Sorocaba, Brazil; 2016 Ausstellungshalle, Frankfurt am Main, Germany; 2013 Kunstverein Familie Montez, Frankfurt am Main, Germany; 1998 Capela do Morumbi, SP, Brazil; 1998 Memorial da America Latina, SP, Brazil; 1996 CCSP, SP, Brazil; 1988 Paço das Artes, SP, Brazil; 1987 MASP, SP, Brazil.