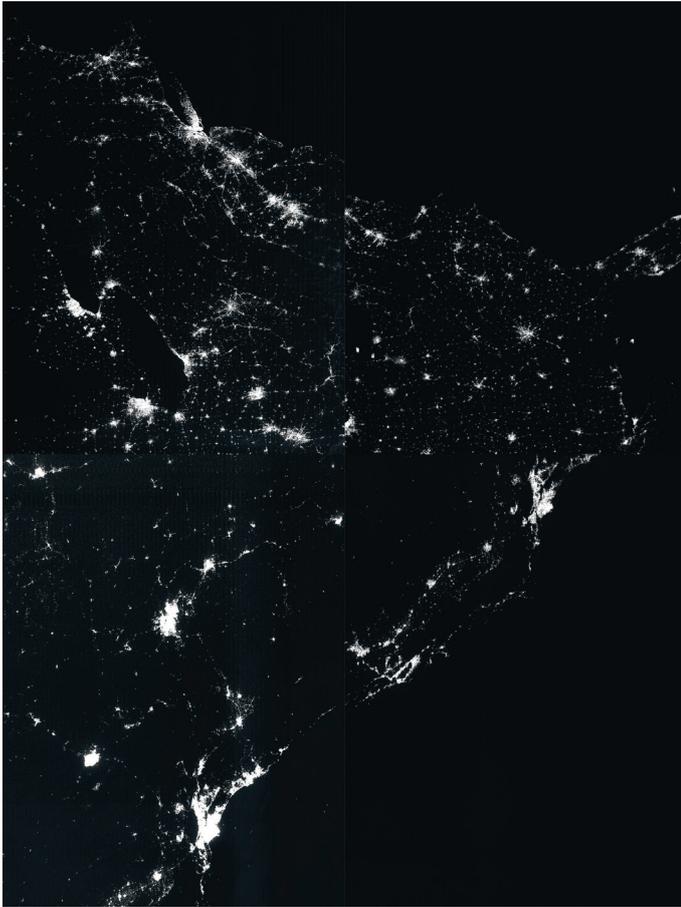




ARMELLE TULUNDA INTERVALLES

Exhibition from January 7th
to February 13th, 2022
In partnership with ENSAD Nancy
as part of Perspectives 2020-21



Armelle Tulunda, *Sur la terre comme au ciel*, 2021.
Lambda silver print, 110x146,7 cm.

Armelle Tulunda creates artworks within the field of photography and imagery in the broad sense, through direct production, but also by appropriation of images taken from books or scientific websites designed for the general public. She is especially interested in the construction of these images, not only from a scientific point of view but also from political, sociological, and historical perspectives. By highlighting their modes of production, she underlines the way in which these images reveal a state of the world that does not

strictly stem from unquestionable truth. A self-taught scientist who approaches this discipline with a deliberately artistic gaze, Armelle Tulunda was initially inspired by the beauty of these images, their poetic quality, while becoming aware of the facticity of their appearance: such as the ones transmitted since the early nineties by the *Hubble*¹ space telescope, which, since they are not sufficiently precise in their raw state, must be coloured, retouched, thus becoming more legible scientifically and accessible to the general public. The artist finds a pocket of freedom in these unknown methods, thus allowing her own images of the cosmos to stray, between infinite reveries, poetic abstraction and, implicitly, a reality of image production arising out of political and economic issues that are often far removed from pure scientific research. A highly subjective scientific “realism” thus emerges, with notable consequences on the collective cosmic imaginary, thus turning an image optimised for research into authentic documentation.

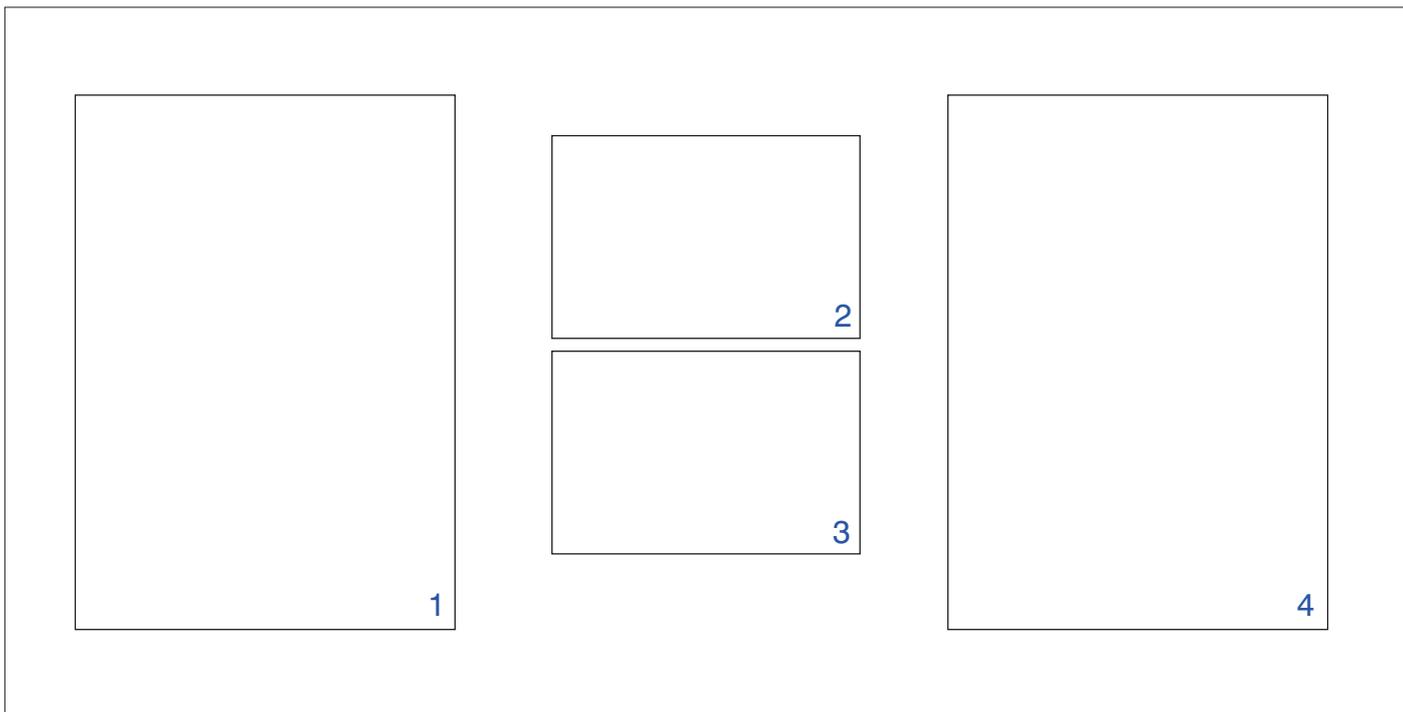
1 The *Hubble* space telescope was developed by NASA with participation from the European Space Agency, and has been in operation since 1990. A particularly serious optical aberration was discovered shortly after it was put into orbit. The US Congress, not satisfied with the ratio project cost/promise of a better visibility of space, therefore had to confront the scientists with their responsibilities. Retouching work on the post-production images, which provides a particularly enchanting vision of the cosmos, thus became necessary within the framework of this project.

Armelle Tulunda likes to anchor her artworks within a paradoxical situation, that of confronting imaging of great precision, supplied by tools with increasingly powerful technology – whose codes she appropriates – with the artisanal production of images in the workshop, drawing on photographic techniques that do not require sophisticated equipment, such as photomontage or analogue photography using chemigrams. These various manipulations allow the artist to question the photographic medium, its history, as well as its fragility in representing the real beyond its surface, often considered by the majority as an irrefutable truth. She is therefore interested in the way in which individuals perceive phenomenon that are not directly accessible to most people, and how the latter link their subjectivity to the unknown, by amalgamating personal stories with official scientific discourses, thus composing knowledge of the world and a degree of truth, oriented in one direction over another.

After her initial research in the field of astronomy, Armelle Tulunda recently became interested in the phenomenon of light pollution: omnipresent yet discreet, this form of pollution does not really spark debate, or fuel disastrous theses, but it nevertheless has not inconsiderable effects on the evolution of humans and non-humans, in their relationship to biological cycles. The light produced by the urban environment no longer enables those who live there to be connected to the celestial world, rendered invisible by a dense fog of light... The artist, having grown up in the Paris region tells the following anecdote: “On a visit several years ago to the Cité des sciences et de l’industrie in Paris, I went to a screening at the Planétarium. The film presented the various stars, planets, or phenomena that we could see with the naked eye. Despite the quality of the images screened, I couldn’t help but feel dissatisfied – a feeling that it took me a while to verbalise. If there are so many amazing things to see, simply by having access to a night sky devoid of light pollution, why had I gone indoors to see computer-generated images of them?” Within the framework of her exhibition *Intervalles* in the window of the *Gue(ho)st House*, the artist confronts her urbanite’s experience with that of Delme, where the stars are clearly visible by night. The works presented make us think about our personal relationship to the cosmos, our loss of bearings considered “natural”, and about a period of environmental crisis often obliging us to find new forms of reconnection with the world.



FLOOR PLAN



1. *Sur la terre comme au ciel*, 2021
Lambda silver print, 110x146,7 cm

2. *Observatoires*, Paris, 2021
Fine art prints on Hanemüelhe paper, 50x70 cm

3. *Observatoires*, Nancy, 2021
Fine art prints on Hanemüelhe paper, 50x70 cm

4. *Sur la terre comme au ciel*, 2021
Lambda silver print, 110x146,7 cm

5. *Audiences*, 2021
Sound piece, 15 minutes

EVENTS

MEETING *AND IF THE NIGHT WOULDN'T EXIST?*
WITH DIDIER MATHIEU, DIRECTOR OF THE EPINAL PLANETARIUM
FEBRUARY 4TH FROM 6PM TO 8PM

WORKSHOP *IMAGINARY GEOGRAPHIES*
FOR CHILDREN OVER 12
FEBRUARY 9TH FROM 2PM TO 4PM



ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Inspired by scientific research, astronomy and the aesthetics' notion of sublime, Armelle Tulunda explores tensions between an imagery resulting from technical, technological and scientific prowess and traditional working methodologies, manual and belonging or not to the history of scientific representation. Her work spanning from drawing, installation, analogue photography to video focuses on an interplay between cultural, scientific realities and personal, ontological ones.

Following the Lumen: Atina Residency (2018), she was selected to present her first solo show, *Out of Sight*, in 2019 at the Lumen Crypt Gallery in St John On Bethnal Green, London. In 2021, she's the recipient of the Emerging artists grant of the Grand Est regional council, which enables her to be accompanied by CAC – la synagogue de Delme. Previous projects include exhibitions in Nancy (FR, 2020), London (UK, 2019) as well as a residency in Atina (IT, 2018).

Following new government measures and in accordance with Decree No. 2021-1059 of August 7th, 2021, the health pass is mandatory to visit the CAC – la synagogue de Delme. Wearing a mask is compulsory in all areas of the art center and other safety rules must be observed (physical distancing, hand washing with hydroalcoholic gel). The art center team thanks you for respecting these instructions and would like to remind you that this event may be subject to modification or cancellation depending on the health context and government measures. Any program changes will be communicated in good time.

INFORMATIONS

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

From Wednesday to Saturday, 2pm - 6pm
and Sunday 11am - 6pm.
Admission free.

CONTACT

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ACCESS

FROM PARIS (by train 90mins):
TGV Est, get off at Metz or Nancy
FROM METZ (by car, 30mins):
D955, formerly route de Strasbourg
FROM NANCY (by car, 30mins):
N74 towards Château-Salins
then D955 towards Metz

CONTACT EDUCATIONAL SERVICE

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