



PRESS RELEASE

SOLO SHOW PASCALE LORGE EFFLEUREMENTS

8 MAY– 6 JUN 2021

Husk Gallery is pleased to present the first solo exhibition with Pascale Lorge. The Belgian artist literally brings the wild nature into the gallery space to set our senses alight for the ephemeral beauty and the beneficence of nature. The exhibition features original works with assemblages of dried flowers and plants, as well as prints on fine art paper.

Pascale Lorge's art works seem rather unusual in light of the simplicity of their materials. Her work evolves through her direct contact with nature and it is here that she finds materials such as flowers and leaves, sea weeds and seeds which are used to create her assemblages on paper and prints. Nature and beauty are the major themes of her works on paper. This is a result of her daily walks in the fields and woods in her surrounding, or her travels abroad. These walks show her that the world is a tremendous compilation and variation of elements, in shapes, colors, materials, sizes, chiaroscuro, sounds and smells. Back in her studio, she uses her gatherings to create works that can bring us all back to the enchantment she experienced during these moments, surrounded by nature.

Trained as a painter, Lorge deliberately avoided using classical paint material or drawing techniques for this recent series so she could imitate this natural reality. She consciously works with materials from nature. She goes on walks and observes her surroundings, picking and collecting plants and flowers on her way. She looks at the smallest vegetative elements, whether in the woods, in the city, or even in a parking area alongside the motorway. Weeds, uncultivated and almost invisible, attract her attention in particular. She carefully dries her finds and creates a new reality by assembling them on paper. The drying technique immortalises the flowers and plants and she conserves their fleeting beauty in a certain sense. The way she treats her finds is strongly reminiscent of the work of those botanists who meticulously collect, dry and arrange plants and flowers in herbaria. The earliest herbaria from the 16th century were used as herb books; a tool created by and for doctors, pharmacists and medical students in the context of learning to identify medicinal plants. Although this knowledge had already been visualised in ancient times on the basis of drawings, the dried plants were more realistic representations.

Although Pascale Lorge's intention is anything but an up-to-date compendium of medicinal plants and flowers, there are links with the healing effect of nature. During her daily walks, she comes into contact with nature through all her senses. She is seduced by the beauty of nature. As an extension of her first *Effleurements* from 2020, she has created new subseries such as *Paires* and *Morphoses*. In these works, she assembles parts of dried plants, petals, stems and seeds on paper into new objects. In turn, the original works are given a second life through a limited series of photo prints and/or postcards.

Another component of her current work is trying to fix and use the light effects that she encounters during her walks in nature. Through photos she makes us witnesses of her perception of the poetic play of light and shadow. A set of printed limited inkjets - *Saule Géranium* and *Marnix*- show a mixture of photography and aquarelle. One of her goals is also to put the spectator in a meditative state of mind – meaning, just to be in the moment, neither with longings or mental activity, nor with judgement or denial, according to the Zen Buddhist philosophy.

About the artist

Pascale Lorge (°1965, Cologne) is a Belgian artist who lives and works in Brussels. She completed her Master in Painting in La Cambre, Brussels. She has taken part in numerous group exhibitions in Belgium and abroad. She is also the director of Studio Art en Ciel Brussels. Pascale Lorge is a versatile artist. In line with her Bauhaus oriented education, she uses oil painting, drawing, engraving and stencil techniques, photography and collages. Her creative process is activated by the curiosity about the materials she uses and her emotional states. As a figurative painter, her research fields are landscapes, human figures, a mixture of it, and to a lesser extent, architecture and sometimes animals. Recently, she starts focusing in her visual work on nature by using natural materials as plants and flowers to create monotypes and assemblages.

Opening Saturday 8 May and Sunday 9 May 2021 from 2 to 7 pm

Opening hours: Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 1 pm to 6 pm and by appointment

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