

"Sowing Doubt" Exhibition

Architecture, Beginnings of the Territory

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The privilege of sharing one of the planet's most biodiverse ecosystems with communities that are deeply rooted in their territories has helped us to understand other narratives regarding our relationships, feelings, creations, and ways of coexisting with the human and the more-than-human. The native peoples of Colombia and their still-existing ways of life have enchanted us and led us to accompany processes of knowledge exchange and exploration for social, cultural and ecosystem regeneration, and by doing so creating living schools that support local initiatives.

We are the result of a culture of hybrid manifestations. The information that emanates from the worlds of which we are a product has meant that the task of reconstructing our own discourse and the entrenchment of our visions is a fragile reality.

One of our forms of interaction and creation has been devoted to weaving together an architecture of care and protection, the beginnings for liminal dialogues between cultures and ecosystems with the goal of developing new methods of



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listening. In this process, we revive rituals to remember that we are spirits with the ability to give a voice to the territories we inhabit and that inhabit us, protecting the cycles of life and solidifying our sense of belonging.

The current dialogue of each worldview, and the spaces in which it is expressed, must strengthen the orality of all the immaterial heritage that contains unquestionable cosmic norms, safeguarding individuals and communities with health, wellbeing, protection, and life energy.

Opening ourselves up to listening to our own *body*, as our primary temple-territory, allows us to hone the ways we relate (weave together) with the other bodies that make up the great collective body that is the *territory* we inhabit. A *territory* that we believe holds memories and knowledge as diverse as the variety of beings who inhabit it. A *territory* that shows us the path down to an encounter with our deepest humanity, in order to embark on a journey of transformation that will aid us in understanding the purpose of our existence in the *web* of life on the planet.

The harmony between thought, word, and action is manifested in the weave. A '*woven architecture*' is the network that we are creating through the relationships that connect us, becoming the manifestation of the narratives that emerge from the encounter between bodies and territories. The weave is the process and, at the same time, the result.

The invitation to accompany the call to *sow doubt* from its inception celebrates and reiterates this manifestation of *body*, *weave* and *territory* where - through an encounter between a



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diverse mix of disciplines and forms of knowledge - we ponder the foundations of the relationships that we weave with our bodies, our souls, and our environment.

We converge in the creation of an *architecture of beginnings* in order to embrace this sowing of doubts, this need to pause and confront our feelings, our narrow perspectives that oppress the biodiversity of this country, and the uncomfortable truths around segregation and violence that we have perpetuated in our everyday lives. Weaves in motion that will lead us to see the confusing identities imposed.

Here, this *architecture of beginnings* is used as a tool to make the abundance of all languages visible, a pilgrimage towards the recognition of the origins with ecosystems and communities as our teachers. We have to understand that the autonomy of the territories depends on the fragile cultural expressions still alive within them, and that only through the lived experience of this interaction between culture and territory (humans and local resources) can we understand how the construction of an environment or a culture is linked to a cycle of life, to a need for protection and to a deep interconnection with the act of inhabiting ourselves.

These beginnings, woven as one of the tangible expressions that infuse this exhibition, are the representation of an ancestral craft where Phyllostachys bamboo is sculpted using fire and sand so that it can then be weaved together. Basket tunnels generate vortexes that are like calls for us to unlearn the learned, to build new narratives of knowledge management based on the design of improbable dialogues. Landscapes to be



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traversed invite us to explore new presences, new rituals, and the production of open knowledge in order to reconcile the relationships between nature and culture through the strengthening of our hybrid identity, charged with tensions and contradictions.

Weaving at large scale calls for collective activism based on rootedness and respect for laws of origin, where we support each other through care to question our words and our thought. These landscapes, this inverted *maloka* (ceremonial house) and the red earth that envelops the spaces are, in a material sense, dialogues of friction but also of connection for the refinement of horizontal epistemologies centered on processes and relationships. The tepui mountains, as the sustainers of ecosystems containing treasures, sketch out an archipelago of moments to reconstruct our understanding of the origin and its relevance in the here and now.

In this way, from this territory and this living school created as part of the "*Sowing Doubt*" exhibition, bridges are built between people, territories, artistic and scientific practices, professions and ways of thinking, living and creating, with the aim of expressing reflections and experiences that will sow doubts, shake up beliefs, awaken vocations and transform awareness in order to nourish new ways of coexisting on Earth and, above all, of honoring Colombia's biodiversity.

I hope that this powerful initiative - guided by a bold team of curators, artists, Indigenous communities, craftspeople and irrepressible weavers and builders of possible



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worlds - will support us in constructing new narratives by honoring the living word, active listening, and the understanding that we are part of an autonomous and regenerative ecosystem.

I am moved by and full of gratitude for this invitation and for all the lessons provided.



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