

andata•ritorno

laboratoire d'art contemporain

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du mercredi au samedi de 14h00 à 18h00

Avec le soutien du Département des affaires culturelles de la Ville de Genève

CHRISTELLE MONTUS

TOMBÉ DU CIEL

46°12'12"N

06°08'17"E

19.04.2007 18:00:00

VERNISSAGE

EXPOSITION

DU JEUDI 19 AVRIL 2007

AU SAMEDI 12 MAI 2007

The 19.04.2007 at 18:00:00 CEST (16:00:00 UTC), on the floor of the Geneva-based Andata.Ritorno Workshop for contemporary art, whose geodesic coordinates are 46°12'12"N 06°08'17"E, a snapshot fell from the sky.

Christelle Montus represented the passing moment at which the starry firmament fell on the gallery. To realize this moment, she poured out pigments like a rain shower of falling stars. The color black represents the infinite depth of the universe. In this décor the galaxies, stars and planets shine, materialized by a sprinkling of pigments and spangles. This circular work, with a diameter of four meters, is articulated around a central pillar. The gallery descends into a starry night – only Christelle's work is illuminated.

In the adjacent room, also in darkness, Christelle Montus symbolizes four of the constellations present at that moment in the sky above the gallery – Cancer, the Triangle, Leo and the Little Bear. The composition includes twenty-nine small panels, divided into four rings of light. These are oils, pigments and spangles on five-inch square canvases. Each of these paintings plays the role of a planet, a star or a galaxy, with their layout providing the form of these four constellations.

Christelle Montus has worked with pigments since 1998. These works are oils sprinkled with pigments. Starting from a blank canvas, she has painted a black background. Without waiting for the paint to dry, she sifted the different colored pigments and spangles captured in the still wet paint.

Inspired since childhood by her vision of the starry night sky, Christelle Montus has never stopped dreaming of how she could represent artistically the expanding universe. Through her pictorial work, she has been able to capture this cosmic imagination on canvas. Today, at the suggestion of Joseph Farine, artistic director of the Andata.Ritorno Workshop of contemporary art, she has created in situ a crowning ephemeral work as a culmination of her search.