

## **OUKA LEELE**

### **BIO**

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Barbara experienced the openness of the sixties in Barcelona and Madrid with the concerns of a youth who sought in art the paths to future democracy. Her art is the fruit of change, of the need for latent expression after a period of repression.

It has a long career that stands out for the mastery of technique and constant creativity. Her most characteristic works are the black and white coloured photographs and engravings, which have been exhibited around the world in cities such as Paris, London, Tokyo, Lisbon, Sao Paulo or New York.

Self-taught, has managed to create a unique personal universe recognizable by the general public in which many times she is the protagonist. This is the case of the work presented, where through its striking colours and undeniable self-imagery, does not hesitate to disguise itself as Dolorosa to recreate a metaphorical fiction, while making us accomplices of everyday realities loaded with symbolism.

### **CURRICULUM**

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In 1976: Advised by a classmate of the painting school, he joined Photocentro, a photography school where the seeds of the budding artistic trends were beginning to be sown. His first photos are included in the book of Diorama Ediciones: "Principle, 9 young Spanish photographers". From that moment, the photography that he did not seek, intertwines in his artistic life without letting it escape despite many attempts.

Her need to paint pushes her towards the fusion of painting and photography, thus developing that very personal language, a mixture of theatrical scenery to be photographed and painting. In contact with other artists, he decides to abandon the idea of studying the Fine Arts career and advance in his artistic search in a self-taught way.

In 1978: He moved his residence to Barcelona where he made the series "Peluquería", which is exhibited in Barcelona, and Madrid.

Theater, dance, cinema, photography, painting ... make up the future of his work.

## **GALERÍA BLANCA BERLÍN**

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In 1980: He moved to New York, where he became aware that his place of work found him delving into his origins, and from there he traveled to Mexico.

In 1981: Returns to Madrid, in full swing and decides to stay because of a serious illness. Make the designs of the hats of the film *Laberinto de Pasiones*, by Almodóvar.

After overcoming the disease, his passion and love for life are reflected in his work.

Exhibits in 1987 at the Biennial of Sao Paulo.

Make the great montage of *La Cibeles* representing the myth of Atalanta and Hippomenes.

Retrospective exhibition at the Spanish Museum of Contemporary Art.

In 1988: Settles in Paris to make the series of giant polaroids for the Fondation Cartier. He spends long seasons in Mallorca, where he prepares for the birth of his daughter in 1990.

He received the First National Prize for Bibliophilia (2003) for "*El Cantar de los Cantares*" with his serigraphs and drawings.

Realization of a mural in Ceutí, Murcia: "*My metaphysical garden*" of 300 square meters. Edit the new book of bibliofilia "*Floraleza*" With his poems and serigraphs intimately related to the mural.

In 2004 he received the Culture Award of the Community of Madrid, and a retrospective exhibition of his work was held: "*Pulpo's Boulevard*".

Receives in 2005: National Photography Award. Which leads him to retake the photograph.

In 2007: Design the sets and costumes for the "*Curlew River*" opera by Britten.

She makes the works "*La menina weightless*" and "*My body is my territory*", which she exhibits in the Museo del Prado as part of the collection: "*12 artists in the Prado Museum*" curated by Francisco Calvo Serraller.

In 2008: "*OUKA LEELE INEDITA*" Anthological exhibition for the National Photography Prize. Costume Museum. MADRID.

Do the work "*The Metaphysics of Las Meninas*" for "*la Caixa*", and exposes "*BETWEEN TWO WORLDS*" Art Center IBERIA BEIJING. CHINA.

He receives the Medal of Honor at the XI INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF EL CAIRO.

In 2009: Publishes the poetry books of OUKA LEELE: "*Of nude drunkenness*" and "*This book burns in my hands*".

Premiere of the Film by Rafael Gordon *THE LOOK OF OUKA LEELE*.

Exhibition "*DELIRANTE JUVENTUD DE OUKA LEELE*". SHANGHAI. CHINA.

In 2010: "*LA MIRADA DE OUKA LEELE*", Nominated as Best Documentary Feature. GOYA Awards 2010

At the Francisco de Vitoria University he directs a pioneering Renaissance workshop project with the final year students of Fine Arts. With the exhibition *SANTA BARBARA BLESSED* in La Gallera de Valencia, there is so much public attendance that it remains open for 6 months.

Selected for the SHANGHAI BIENNALE 2010 WITH A GREAT FORMAT, (being the first time that a Spanish artist enters the biennial).

## **GALERÍA BLANCA BERLÍN**

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Make the poster for the film by Julio Medem "Room in Rome"

Receives the Isabel Ferrer 2010 award

In September he inaugurated his project SANTA BARBARA BLESSED, around the figure of Santa Bárbara, Exhibition that is extended several times given the success achieved, closing its doors definitively on March 27, 2011. LA GALLERA Room Community Museums Consortium Valenciana VALENCIA.

His work has roamed in this 2010 in different exhibitions and in different cities, among others in Tokyo, Malta, Zagreb, Prague, Shanghai, Rome, Washington, Moscow, Beijing, Tel Aviv, Sofia, New York, Bucharest, Bratislava ...

In 2011: In February, he premiered his film LA MIRADA DE OUKA LEELE at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Rome.

He received the ALFA AND OMEGA AWARD for the best feature-length documentary.

Participates in the ART BARTER MADRID exhibition project. DCODE FESTIVAL (June 9 - 25). A project of exchange between Artists and the public exchange anything except money! Collective exhibition: MIQUEL BARCELÓ, PABLO GENOVÉS, OUKA LEELE, MARISCAL, EULALIA VALLDOSERA ....

In July his Exhibition "MY CIRCUS" is presented. Alexandra IRIGOYEN Gallery. Madrid

His Work continues traveling with different exhibitions in different cities, Chicago, Albuquerque, Vilnius, Riga, Kiev, Tel Aviv, Helsinki, Ljubljana, Barcelona, Vienna, Athens, Montevideo, Caracas, Santiago de Chile ..., among others.

He concludes his short film "Pour quoi?" About the story of Caddy Adzuba. The martyrdom of women. It is presented in different spaces and festivals from February 2012

In May 2012 he receives the Silver Medal of the Community of Madrid.

June 2012: Exhibition OUKA LEELE "MISTICA LUZ EN EL SILENCIO". CASYC (Obra Social Caja Cantabria). SANTANDER

September 2012: Stars in the CAPACITADOS television series. Where a whole day passes in the role of a blind woman thanks to glasses totally closed to light, as a final result she creates video art NOVIENDO.

November 2012 Receives the National Photography Award, Piedad Isla throughout his career.

Exhibits in the IVAM "From the future to the past, The Prado Museum seen by contemporary Spanish artists". And he gives a lecture about the work done in the Prado Museum.

January 2013: It is portrayed by Miquel Barceló in his studio in Paris.

The itinerancy of "The Transgressive Utopia" continues for the countries of South America.

December 2013: The project "Miradas de Asturias" begins with the Masaveu Foundation, a project that will last a year, where you will have to capture your vision of Asturias with photographs.

Carry out the 2014 Carnival poster for the Círculo de Bellas Artes

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February 2014 : "A Cruel Banquet. PourQoui? ", An exhibition-video-installation at the Círculo de Bellas Artes in Madrid. A ritual action to eradicate violence and make the voice of Caddy Adzuba heard (Prince of Asturias Award 2014).

April 2014 inaugurates "The Transgressive Utopia" at the Moscow photography biennial.

April: Performs, on behalf of Mediaset, a photograph of the presenters and collaborators of the Sálvame program, a group portrait with popular and media characters, to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the program. Entering a new challenge.

Year dedicated to work on Asturias, under the patronage of the María Cristina Masaveu Peterson Foundation.

February-April 2015: Exhibition "WHERE THE LIGHT TAKES ME" project Asturias looks, patronage of the María Cristina Masaveu Peterson Foundation. COUNT DUKE. MADRID. 45 Digitally painted photographs, 5 watercolors on photography and 3 videos compose the work.

Make the poster and graphic work for ART-MADRID art fair.

2016 participates in Arch stand Museo del Prado. Individual exhibition "Travelers of my Galaxy" in the Fernández-Braso gallery.

Participate in the Photo Shanghai Fair with the Art + Shanghai gallery.

Works the sculptural set in glass "De figs a brevas" in The Royal Glass Factory of La Granja de San Ildefonso and represents Spain in the collective exhibition European Glass Context of Denmark.

2017 publishes Axis mundi and other stories in the publisher Huerga y Fierro.

He premiered the work Generations in the theater Paco Rabal with Liberto Rabal and Adriana Davidova. Start the designs of "Flying carpets", which are being made in Afghanistan and Iran with the traditional techniques of Persian rugs, produced by Hamid.

2018 exhibits in Arco in collaboration with Ángela Molina and I am a pringada. meetings with artists in the 3rd of Velázquez.

2021 individual exhibition Supernova at the Sala Goya of the Círculo de Bellas Artes in Madrid. Also participate in the PhotoEspaña edition held between June 2 and October 20.

Since 2014 he has been a jury of the Arts of the Princess of Asturias Award.

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### PREMIOS

#### **1982**

Concesión de la Beca del Ministerio de Cultura: "AYUDA PARA ARTISTAS JOVENES"

#### **1983**

Premio ICARO de Artes Plásticas Diario 16, Madrid

### **1998**

Accésit en el IV Concurso Internacional de Fotografía "FOTOGRANPRIX", Barcelona.

### **2002**

Placa de Pintora Ilustre de la Asociación de Escritores y Artistas Españoles. Madrid

### **2003**

Primer Premio Nacional de Bibliofilia por el libro EL CANTAR DE LOS CANTARES DEL REY SALOMÓN con serigrafías y dibujos de Ouka Leele, editado por la editorial Ahora.

Seleccionada para el PREMIO L'OREAL DE ARTE CONTEMPORÁNEO XIX EDICIÓN, Centro Cultural Conde Duque, Madrid.

Seleccionada para los PREMIOS ANGEL DE PINTURA 2003. Exposición en el Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos, Córdoba.

### **2004**

Premio de Cultura de la Comunidad de Madrid 2004 concedido a toda su trayectoria artística.

### **2005**

Premio Nacional de Fotografía 2005.

### **2006**

Recibe el primer premio de poesía del público de poesía de miedo. Con el poema "DE NOCHE CUANDO TODOS DUERMEN". Otorgado por la Casa del Poeta de Trasmoz.Tarazona. Zaragoza.

### **2007**

Premiada como mejor fotógrafa del año por la revista Glamour. Casino de Madrid.

### **2008**

Recibe Medalla de Honor en la XI BIENAL de El Cairo.

### **2009**

Premio Protectora de animales. Segovia.

### **2010**

Recibe el premio POP-EYE 2010 a toda su trayectoria. Gran Teatro de Cáceres.

### **2011**

LA MIRADA DE OUKA LEELE Recibe el PREMIO ALFA Y OMEGA al mejor largometraje Documental 2010.

### **2012**

Recibe la Medalla de Plata de la Comunidad de Madrid.

Recibe el Premio a la Trayectoria. Premios QUEARTE de Pasarela Viana.

Recibe el "III Premio de fotografía Piedad Isla" 2012, Palencia.

### **2015**

Recibe el premio Champagne "La joie de vivre" 2015.

### **2017**

Recibe el premio "Quijote" de fotografía. Toledo.

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## PUBLICACIONES

"Naturaleza viva Naturaleza muerta" ed. Arnao 1984

"Piel" y "Ella sabe que es una princesa" Galería Sen

"Versos y dibujos "Cuadernos del Hocinoco. Fundación Antonio Pérez de Cuenca

"Poesía en carne viva" ed Atlantis

"FLORALEZA" poemas y serigrafías. Ahora ediciones

"Este libro arde entre mis manos" Ed. Huerga 2009

"De la embriaguez desnuda" Ed. Sial 2009

"Pan de Verbo "Editorial Huerga y Fierro. 2011

"La llave de la jaula" Editorial Huerga y Fierro 2013

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" Agua de la añoranza" Editorial Huerga y Fierro 2014

" En este jardín no matarás" Editorial Huerga y Fierro 2015

"Axis Mundi y otros relatos" Editorial Huerga y Fierro 2017