



A Special Operation

50 ink drawings on litmus cardboard

Fifty plants from all over the world talk to us. The plants found a book called *Sobrevivencia*, which contains instructions on how to survive in nature. It's a book made for the Cuban Special Operations Military, and there are images of plants in the book. The illustrations however, do not look like plants do in reality. The plants themselves say that they are spectrums, but the military is unaware. The plants find the book hilarious—it's a book made for the emergency, the catastrophe. The plants don't understand why the military needs to create catastrophes all the time. "Why do they believe we are going to help them?" The plants laugh aloud, they are amused.

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PhD Student, department of Social Anthropology, Iberoamericana University, Mexico City / EXHIBITIONS: "Esok" Jakarta Biennale, Indonesia 2021 / "Seguridad, Control, Decisión", Ángeles Baños Gallery, Badajoz, 2021 / Arco Madrid with Ángeles Baños Gallery / "La otra isla", Casa Galván, Mexico City, 2019 / "Cross Currents", Smart Museum of Art and National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, 2019 / "Itinerarios XXV", Botín Center, Santander, 2019 / Kochi-Muziris Biennale", Kerala, India, 2018. RESIDENCY PROGRAMS, GRANTS AND AWARDS: Reinbeckhallen Residency Program, Berlin, 2018 / El Ranchito Residency, Matadero Center, Madrid in collaboration with Artista x Artista Residency, Havana, Cuba, 2017 / Botín Foundation Grant for Visual Arts, Santander, Spain, 2017-2018 / Grants & Commissions Program, The Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation (CIFO), Miami, 2017

We found a book.
This book said what we are, and we got curious.
We read the book.
It has no year of edition, or city or publishing house.
It is just a book.
Why did we find it?
Did they want us to find it?
There are images of us in the book.
Images of our colleagues from all over the world.
It is curious how they see us.
You can see drawings of how they think we are.
They think we have properties that we don't.
They are so confused.
We laugh out loud,
but we understand we are something that they cannot see.
We know they try but they can't.
The book says that we are useful.
Useful for war, catastrophic situations, emergencies.
Why are they creating catastrophes all the time?
We are spectrums.
That is a secret.
They believe we are useful for war, to poison, eat, drink.
But we are not, we are spectrums.
That is not a secret.
We know why we found the book.
They don't believe in themselves any more.
They are forgetting how to create catastrophes.
They are afraid, we can feel it.
They don't know how to behave out side of a catastrophic environment.
This is an old book, we can tell.
They are trying to see us but they are incapable.
We are spectrums, it is a secret.
We are telling you,
so you can see us like we are.
You do not care about creating catastrophes.
We have been laughing for so long
Now we are enjoying sharing with you,
sharing our images from this book.
They are hilarious.
We are spectrums.
It is not a secret.
They don't know it.
Do you think we should tell them?