

Archeological matters floor box, 2024



Paula de Solminihac

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Clays wrapped in cotton fabrics in a black iron box
Unique artwork

Description:

Archeological matter - statement by the artist:

In the art of memory it is said that chaining systems can be generated so that the memory is preserved as it was at the moment of the experience.

1. One day I ate a bread that looked like the small lumps of clay that I was holding in water and wet sand in the workshop.
2. The plan was to imprint in the memory of the wet clay the passage of time. I wrapped the remnants of clay I had in the workshop in old cloth. I sunk them in buckets with sand and water and kept them wet for a long time.
3. During that time, things happened that I didn't think of: fungi came out.
4. As my job was only to look at the buckets, I discovered the reflection of the sky in the water.
5. Until one day I took them out and put them to dry to be able to observe what time and humidity had produced.
6. I separated the wrapping from the clay.
7. I separated all its parts.
8. I looked at the bodies that had formed.
9. I carefully made a collection of samples.
10. I saw what moisture, time and fungus had done to the fabrics.
11. How they looked like shrouds.
12. And that when I inverted the image it looked like a starry sky.

I discovered that my art of memory had allowed me not only to print time but to see in a small clod of earth, an image of what could be a texture of the universe.