

## ALMUDENA ROMERO THE PIGMENT CHANGE

NOVEMBER 3 2023 - JANUARY 6 2024 OPENING & LAUCHING 03 NOV FROM 6:30PM

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## Almudena Romero The pigment Change



For the release of her second book The Pigment Change, published by Fisheye Éditions. Fisheye Gallery is pleased to present the work of Spanish artist Almudena Romero.

The Pigment Change exhibition features the chapters that structure this great project: The Act of Producing (I), Family Album (II) and Faire une photographie (IV). The result of luminous experiments, each series explores our relationship with nature, but also the role of the artist in the context of the current climate crisis.

For her photographic and research project, Almudena Romero invents new ecological techniques. In order to obtain images, she exposes plants to specific quantities of light and particular wavelengths (thanks to the processes of photoperiodism, photobleaching and photosynthesis). The result is a body of work that is organic, but also ephemeral. The result is absolutely unique images that challenge traditional conceptions of photography - which are ultimately doomed to extinction because they are so polluting. 'I don't use photography to document facts. It's not about making a photo, it's about cultivating it. The photo is alive', explains Almudena Romero.

For the first chapter of *The Pigment Change*, called The Act of Producing (I), the artist identified over thirty plant species from her grandmother's garden that could be used to create photographic works. By simply exploiting the whitening action of the sun on the chlorophyll pigments in the leaves, Almudena Romero prints photographs with her own hands in a *mise en abyme* of the photographic act, revealing our interdependence with plants.

While the works in The Act of Producing are fixed, the ephemeral image plays a key role in *The Pigment Change* project. Drawing on this paradox between unlimited ephemerality and limited archiving, the photosynthesis-based prints of living watercress in Family Album (II) provoke reflection on notions of filiation, documentation, continuity, ownership, inheritance and heritage.

# Almudena Romero The pigment Change



Lives and works between London and Valencia.

Based in London, Almudena Romero enjoys exploring the multiplicity of photographic processes. In the course of her creations, the visual artist examines our relationship with the environment, while questioning the role it plays in the current ecological crisis. Using processes naturally present in flora, such as photoperiodicity, photobleaching and photosynthesis, she reflects on production, reproduction and sustainability at the interface between science, art, philosophy and the intimate.



Her work has been exhibited in international public institutions, including the Victoria and Albert Museum (UK), the National Portrait Gallery (UK), and the TATE Modern-TATE Exchange (UK).

In October 2023, her work will be presented at the BNF for the exhibition 'Épreuve de la matière' and in November she will have a solo show at the Fisheye Gallery with the series 'The Pigment Change'.

In 2025, her newest work 'The Museum of Plant Art' will be exhbited at the South London Gallery.

#### Currently and coming soon:

2023. Bibliothèque Nationale de France, *Épreuves de la matière* Curated by Héloïse Conésa. Paris, France.

2023. The Museum of Plant Art. Chapelle des Cordeliers . Toulouse, France.

2023. The Sarabande Foundation (coming soon)





#### Awards, Grants and Funding (selected)

- . 2023. Nominee.Louise Roeder Art Prize for Sustainability
- . 2022. Awardee. ACAVA Studio Fund
- . 2021. Awardee. Arts Council England. DYCP grant.
- . 2021. Finalist.Emerging Photographer award Photo London.
- . 2021. Nominee. Prix Pictet
- . 2020 Winner.BMW Residency Award
- . 2020 Awardee. Arts Council England. C-19 Grants.
- . 2020 Awardee.The Richard and Siobhán Coward Foundation grants.
- . 2020 Awardee. The Eaton Fund.
- . 2020 Awardee. ACAVA studio Fund.
- . 2020 Awardee.Royal Society of Chemistry Outreach Fund grants.
- . 2020 Awardee. The Harnisch Foundation grants.
- . 2019 Awardee National Lottery Heritage Fund. Project Grants.
- . 2019 Awardee. i-Portunus. Creative Europe Fund.
- . 2019 Awardee. SPAIN arts & culture. Cultural Office. Embassy of Spain in USA.
- . 2019 Awardee. London Community Foundation grants.
- . 2019. Awardee. a-n mentoring bursaries.
- . 2018 Awardee. Arts Council England. National Lottery Project Grants.
- . 2018 Awardee. a-n Artist Bursaries, UK.
- . 2016 Awardee. London Creative Network, professional development programme, London
- . 2015 Finalist. The Worldwide Photography Gala Awards

#### **Commissions (selected)**

- . 2022. Guerlain x Fisheye Gallery. Artwork for exhibition at Guerlain Paris.
- . 2020.BBC Four. Lucy Worsley Royal Photo Album Episode.
- . 2019. BBC Four. Victorian Sensations BBC Four episode.
- . 2019. London Community foundation & Peabody Group. Participatory art installation.
- . 2018. Victoria and Albert Museum. Video on permanent display at New Photography Centre.
- . 2018. Tsinghua Art Museum. Video for Visions and Reflections exhibition .
- . 2018. National Portrait Gallery. Video for Victorian Giants exhibition.
- . 2018. Bow Arts & Peabody Group. Mural art. Hoardings commission.
- . 2017. The Photographers' Gallery. Participatory art installation.

- . 2017. University of the Arts London. Participatory art (with later exhibition and publication).
- . 2016. Fundación Mapfre Cultura. Participatory art (Exhibited at the Foundation).
- . 2016. Team London Bridge & Southwark Council. Public artwork installation.
- . 2016. Victoria and Albert Museum. Participatory art (with later exhibition). London, UK.
- . 2015. Victoria and Albert Museum. Participatory art installation.
- . 2015. Victoria and Albert Museum . Video for Julia Margaret Cameron exhibition.
- . 2015. Emergency Exit Artist.Public artwork installation
- . 2015. Wellcome Trust & UCL. Participatory art installation

#### Residencies (selected)

- . 2023. The Sarabande Foundation
- . 2022-2023. Laboratory of Plants Microbes and Environment Interactions (LIPME).
- . 2020-2021. BMW Residency, Paris, France.
- . 2020. Guest Projects (Yinka Shonibare Studio),London, UK
- . 2020. ISCP,New York. (cancelled due to Covid travel restrictions).
- . 2019. Penumbra Foundation, New York, USA.
- . 2019. Lucy Art Residency, Kavala, Greece.
- . 2018. Sichuan Fine Arts Institute, Chongqing, China.
- . 2018. National Portrait Gallery. Victorian Giants exhibition residency.London, UK.
- . 2017. Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK.
- . 2016. Mitsubishi Ichigokan Museum, Japan.

### Works in foundations and public archives and collections

BBC Four, UK.

Fonds d'art contemporain - City of Paris Collections, France.

BMW Art Collection, France.

University of the Arts London. Photography Archive and Research Centre. UK.

Bow Arts Trust, UK.

Penumbra Foundation, USA.

Museo de San Telmo. Gabriela Cendoya-Bergareche Collection, Spain.

The Philanthropic Lab, France



#### Solo exhibitions & solo displays at fairs

- 2023. The Museum of Plant Art. Chapelle des Cordeliers .Toulouse, France.
- 2023. The Pigment Change. Fisheye Gallery, France. 2022. The Pigment Change. Studies on my grandma's garden. TOBE Gallery.
- 2021. The Pigment Change. Les Rencontres d'Arles , France.
- 2021. The Pigment Change Paris Photo, France. 2018. Growing Concerns. RAW Labs. Bow Arts. London, UK.
- 2018. Growing Concerns. Photofusion. London, UK. 2018. Portraits From the Elephant. Photography Archive and Research Centre. University of the Arts London.

#### Group exhibitions, festivals & fairs (selected)

- . 2023. Bibliothèque Nationale de France. Curated by Héloïse Conésa. Paris, France.
- . 2023. MaisonGuerlain. Commission exhibition organised by Fisheye Gallery. Paris, France.
- . 2023. Unseen. TOBE Gallery, Amsterdam, NL.
- . 2023. MIA Fair. TOBE Gallery, Milan, Italy.
- . 2023. Photo London, Fisheye Gallery, UK.
- . 2023. Art Paris. Fisheye Gallery, Paris, France.
- . 2023. Art Taipei. V&E Art Gallery and Fisheye Gallery, Taiwan.
- . 2023. Fisheye Gallery. Group show at the gallery, Paris, France.
- . 2023. Art & Antique Budapest. TOBE Gallery, Budapest, Hungary.
- . 2022. Paris Photo. BMW Residency Laureates Retrospective, Paris, France.
- . 2022. Photo London. Fisheye Gallery, UK.
- . 2022. Centro Cultural Las Cigarreras. PPT Open Art Festival, Alicante, Spain.
- . 2022. Open Eye Gallery. with Land Art, Liverpool, UK.
- . 2021. Photo London. Fisheye Gallery, UK.
- . 2020. London Art Fair. Nunnery Gallery, UK.
- . 2020. Grenze Arsenale Fotografici Festival, Verona, Italy.
- . 2019. Belfast Photo Festival with Golden Thread Gallery, UK.
- . 2018. Tsinghua Art Museum. Vision and Reflection. Curated by Phillip Prodger. Beijing, China.
- . 2018. UNSEEN Festival. CO-OP space. Amsterdam, Netherlands
- . 2018. Centquatre-Paris. Festival Circulation(s). France.
- . 2017(June) The Photographers' Gallery with London Alternative Photography Collective. London, UK.

- . 2017 (November). HYPERANALOGUE. The Photographers' Gallery. London, UK.
- . 2017. TATE Exchange-TATE Modern. With Digital makers Collective.London, UK.
- . 2017. New Approaches in Photography. Four Corners Gallery. London, UK.
- . 2017. Venice Biennale 2017. Diaspora Pavilion.
- Tintypes produced in collaboration with artist Khadija Saye. Venice, Italy.
- . 2016. MozEx. Curated by V&A and Tate Digital.
- . 2016. Victoria and Albert Museum. participatory artwork commission. London, UK.
- . 2016. Fundación MAPFRE Cultura. Participatory artwork, Madrid, Spain.
- . 2016. Brighton Photo Fringe with the London Alternative Photography Collective. Brighton, Uk.
- . 2016. Process. DreamSpace Gallery. London, UK.
- . 2015. Revela-T Festival, Cataluña, Spain.
- . 2015. The Arts Pavilion. Photomonth. London, UK.
- . 2014. Open Peckham Platform, London, UK.
- . 2014. Night Contact, Brighton Photo Biennial, UK.
- . 2014. The Polaroid show, Doomed Gallery, London,  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{LIK}}$
- . 2014. London Analogue Festival, OXO Tower Wharf, London, UK.
- . 2012. PHOTON Festival, Valencia, Spain.

#### Selected press, media & books featuring my work

- 2023. Les Carnets du paysage Magazine.
- 2023. Maze Row Magazine.
- 2022. Contre-culture dans la photographie contempo-
- raine. Michel Poivert. Published by Textuel.
- 2022. L'Œil écoute Podcast.
- 2022. Lomography magazine.
- 2022. LensScratch magazine.
- 2022. Country and Townhouse magazine
- 2022. Better Photography India magazine
- 2022. Moove magazine
- 2021. Forbes
- 2021. The Art Newspaper
- 2021. El Pais-Paris Photo
- 2021. Sciences et Avenir
- 2021. MONOPOL-Paris Photo
- 2021. El Pais

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**Almudena Romero**, *The Act of Producing*, 2022 Photograph printed on leaves casted in bio resin fossil.

70 x 50 cm.





Almudena Romero, Large scale collage III

The Act of Producing.

The Pigment Change., 2021

Photographs printed on Aspidistra and Taro leaves.

Casted in bio resin blocks., Framed with pinewood

100 x 145 x 3 cm. 120 x 165 x 10 cm.

EUR €25,000.00





Almudena Romero, Hibiscus Sculpture.
Studies on my grandma's garden.
The Act of Producing.
The Pigment Change., 2023
Photograph printed on Hibiscus leaf
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Large Scale hands on Taro Studies on my grandma's garden. The Act of Producing. The Pigment Change., 2022 Photograph printed on Taro leaf. Casted in bio resin fossil.

50 x 70 cm.





**Almudena Romero**, Large scale hand on Taro Studies on my grandma's garden. The Act of Producing.

The Pigment Change., 2022

Photograph printed on Taro leaf Casted in bio resin fossil.

50 x 70 cm.





Almudena Romero, Hiedra hand oval
Studies on my grandma's garden.
The Act of Producing.
The Pigment Change., 2023
Photograph printed on Hiedra leaf Casted in bio resin fossil.

15 x 30 cm.





**Almudena Romero**, Hand on Nispero leaf Studies on my grandma's garden. The Act of Producing. The Pigment Change., 2022

Photograph printed on Nispero leaf Casted in bio resin fossil.

15 x 30 cm.





Almudena Romero, Taro Blanco. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Taro Blanco
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Hibiscus. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Hibiscus
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Hand on Wentii leaf Studies on my grandma's garden. The Act of Producing. The Pigment Change., 2022





Almudena Romero, Hand on Hibiscus
Studies on my grandma's garden.
The Act of Producing.
The Pigment Change., 2023
Photograph printed on Hibiscus leaf casted in bio resin fossil





Almudena Romero, Hands on Aspidistra Studies on my grandma's garden. The Act of Producing. The Pigment Change., 2023

EUR €1,500.00: all Taxes included





Almudena Romero, Hiedra Blanco. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Hiedra Blanco.
Casted in bio resin fossil.





**Almudena Romero**, Hands on Ficus Studies on my grandma's garden. The Act of Producing. The Pigment Change., 2022

Photograph printed on Ficus leaf Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Magnolia Blanco.
The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Magnolia Blanco
Casted in bio resin fossil.





**Almudena Romero**, *The Act of Producing*, 2022 Photograph printed on leaves casted in bio resin fossil.

EUR €1,500.00: all Taxes included





Almudena Romero, Rosa de Siria. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Rosa de Siria
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Pittosporum. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Pittosporum
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Sechium Blanco. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Sechium Blanco
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Azucena. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Azucena
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Cucullata Blanco. The Pigment Change: The act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Cucullata Blanco
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Pittosporum. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Pittosporum
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Kumquat. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Kumquat.
Casted in bio resin fossil.





Almudena Romero, Escarola. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Escarola
Casted in bio resin fossil.

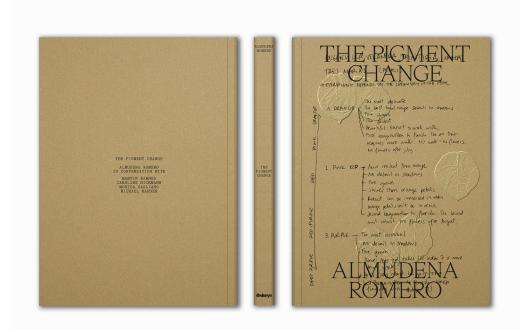




Almudena Romero, Aspidistra. The Pigment Change: The Act of Producing, 2023
Photograph printed on Aspidistra
Casted in bio resin fossil.

### Almudena Romero The pigment Change, Fisheye Éditions





Divided into four chapters, *The Pigment Change* includes image-objects and photographic experiments that offer a perspective beyond sustainable resources and practices, to explore questions about our relationship to nature, and production and reproduction in the context of the current climate crisis. This body of work examines perspectives on the act of causing existence and the resulting dynamics of exploitation, accumulation and inheritance that are central to the current ecological collapse, but also to the art industry.

The book is punctuated by exchanges between Almudena Romero and leading figures from photography and research: Caroline Hickman, Martin Barnes, Monica Gagliano and Michael Marder.

## Almudena Romero *The pigment Change,* Fisheye Éditions





The Pigment Change FORMAT : 240 × 320 mm

308 pages

Recycled cover with embossing and marking

FSC-certified sustainably produced recycled paper Otabind paperback binding

LANGUAGE: French & English ISBN: 979-10-97326-23-4

Available in specialist bookshops and on the Fisheye store: www.store.fisheyemagazine.fr





Exhibited artists:

Juliette Alhmah Yulia Appen Chloé Azzopardi Christopher Barraja Jean Chritophe Bechet Léa Habourdin Yana Hryhorenko Ilanit Illouz Alain Keler Benedict Kurzen & Sane de Wilde Mario Macilau Alisa Martynova Sergey Melnichenko Xenia Petrovska Yana Sidash Eric Shwab Maxime Taillez Brieuc Weuleress Tamaki Yoshida

Represented artists:

Charlotte Abramow
Gabriel Dia
Graphset & Amandine Besacier
Delphine Diallo
Théo Gosselin & Maud Chalard
Stéphane Lavoué
Almudena Romero
Laure Winants



THE GALLERY

Opened in October 2016, Fisheye Gallery is located in the Xth arrondissement of Paris in a space dedicated exclusively to contemporary photography. With a second 200 m2 space opened in Arles, the gallery is proud to represent artists with diverse writing styles and to support a variety of cultural initiatives.

As a young gallery, Fisheye Gallery aims to stand out by offering an international, emerging and uninhibited programme. It assumes its role of discoverer of new photographic writing and accompanies many committed artists with a strong focus on the environment.

The gallery is chaired by Benoît Baume, co-founder of the Fisheye group, whose magazine of the same name focuses on photography and its role in our society from an economic, cultural and sociological point of view.

Since 2021, the gallery is directed by Salomé d'Ornano.