

Sobin Park

Poetry in Motion

Curated by Dr. Thalia Vrachopoulos

August 30 – September 30 2019

Opening: August 30 h 6.30pm

Laboratorium-Venezia, Santa Croce- Calle de Mezo, 1592

Press Release

Laboratorium Venezia proudly presents Sobin Park: Poetry in Motion an exhibition organized by New York-based curator Dr. Thalia Vrachopoulos. The artist and curator will be present to greet you at the show's opening reception on Friday, August 30th starting at 6:30 pm at Laboratorio Venezia, Santa Croce-Calle de Mezo, 1592, Venezia, Campo san Giacomo.

The title of this show may have been inspired by Park's movement in space but it is also necessary to give credit to the Johnny Tillotson eponymous 60s song. The artist's movement through space while creating her monumental works necessitates that we look at her production in terms of performance as well as fine art. Park's unscripted yet measured and gracious peregrinations through space result in powerful forms created through her physical movements in space. Moreover, it is done in durative time involving her body's moving back and forth to mark the huge 30-foot canvas.

Her subjects the dragon (Yang-male) and the female (Yin-female) are Taoist opposites that are complementary and simultaneously interrelate in nature. These protagonists contrast juxtaposing the scaly darkness of a dragon ideal for Park's graphite medium against the white delicate paper that becomes the translucent skin of the female. The two motifs are inseparably related and can be read as sexual union, while holding deeper meaning according to Korean cosmology. They are combined as the balance of man and woman like the Yin and Yang principles of Taoism.

Since the 70s and the advent of artists Laurie Anderson, Marina Abramovic and Carolee Schneemann performance art has also been tied into feminism because it involved the woman's body. Park's drawing doesn't merely involve the female body in her pieces, it is her lifelong motif and subject of interest. Park's dragon is inextricably woven with a beautiful nude maiden who is an active participant in an erotic play for she doesn't just pose passively waiting to be drawn. Park's female protagonist takes charge of the action.

Venice, July 19 2019

MORE INFO:

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