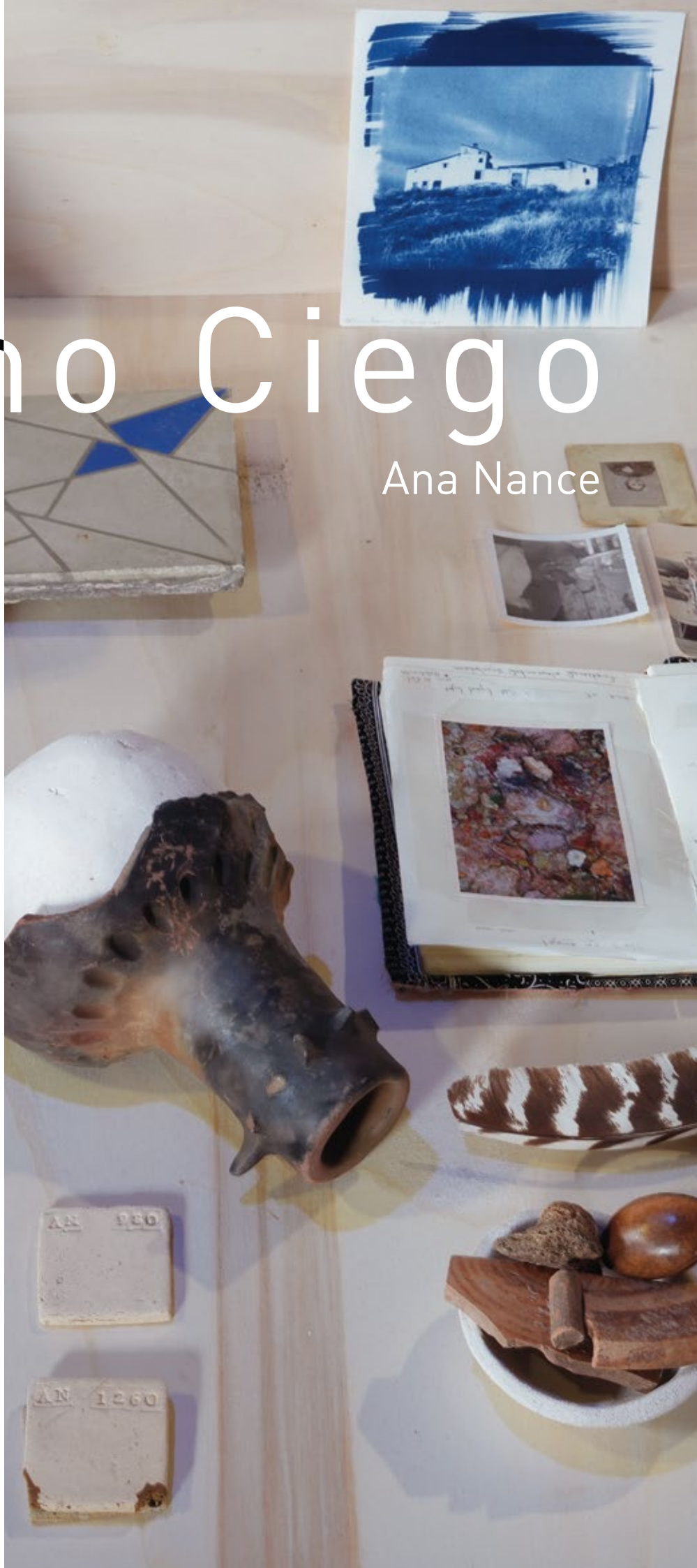


Horno Ciego

Ana Nance

This is a contemporary conceptual project using cross cultural references, interdisciplinary techniques and memory to appropriate and create new formations. Self exploration and identity amongst nature and the erosion of time.



This project began to develop through the discovery of clay and my exploration of self expression in different artistic mediums using Peñarrubia, the village in the region of the Sierra del Segura where my mother was born, as a backdrop. As a child I would come from the United States, where I was born, to visit family and spend summers which created my own relationship to this place and over my many professional years as a photographer focused my camera on its landscape, people and even issues. This brought me to an even deeper search of creating works of art reflecting on its interesting history and diverse natural territory. I gather earth, rocks, and other references as materials to build ceramic pieces, sculptures, installations, and photographic still lifes.

The works were presented in groups of 4 installations at an exhibition at Nave Oporto, Carabanchel, Madrid in June of 2023 after two years of residing in their studios.

Special thanks to Nave Oporto and Maria Tolmos for her coordination and energy. Also to Pepa, Elena, Abraham, Susana, Josue, Pedro, Jesus, Sandra and all the other people that have given me their time and expertise, nothing is done alone.





Handwritten notes and sketches on a notebook page:

... a cube liquid light ...
... a cube ...

... a cube ...
... a cube ...



Text and diagrams from a book or document:

**FORMAS DE OC
 IBÉRICA. EL I
 EN TORNO
 PENARRUBIA (**

**1. INTRODUCCI
 DE MONTAÑ
 El estudio de la
 Escultura de Penar**

HORNO CIEGO PRESENTATION

Artist Statement:

Recently I feel more like a hybrid. An interdisciplinary soul breeding cross-cultural references and interlacing concerns by curling memory with appropriation in creating new formations. The interest of identity and our relationship to place is questioned, at times I feel an emotional sense of dissociation to where I am because of so much movement. The erosion of certain fabrics, values, and ways of life that were once sewn into our societies are not lost if they can be remembered. This meaningful purpose of understanding our relationship to the earth and our existence upon it helps us to understand the universe and drive our connectivity in interacting. In particular, I find importance and strength in the material that lies beneath the surface of the earth as the organic metaphor to fuse that power of nature with the ambitious gestures humans have historically made in creating useful and necessary objects. These objects have been and continue to be a form of language that encompass the past with present concerns. Questioning the curiosity of existence, the natural flow of things scientific, metaphysical, abstract, and spiritual all together has influenced my visual dialogue, and I wish to be honest about my intention because it comes from my genetic seeds, cultural background, and experiences. The harmony that is needed to counterbalance the weight of so many interests in my life revert into the simple action of creativity.

Documents, photographs, drawings, and examples of materials are put together as an installation representing the hunger for knowledge and the research used for groundwork. Themes of identity, self-exploration, memory, metamorphosis, current issues, rural and urban are amongst the work with illusions of imagination and alchemy. The use of wild clay extracted from the land where my mother is from in the Sierra del Segura and making vessels influenced by traditional shapes and pit fired on the same land are techniques that connect me not only to my origins but to the idea of taking evolution forward by creating these new formations. I have used photography, being a photographer of many years, as an idea to capture the importance of objects, some old and found, others formed together, as well in the stage of development.

The menilites were once used as idols during prehistory and the bronze age, I found my own and have used them on a different stage.



photo by: Luuc Queralt

ANA NANCE BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Ana Nance is an artist and known photographer who has been in residency for almost 2 years at Nave Oporto working on a conceptual interdisciplinary project. 30 years of experience has placed her on a diverse map of numerous awards, exhibitions, publications, campaigns, public speaking, directing, and consulting of which we can now add teaching, and filling in her biography.

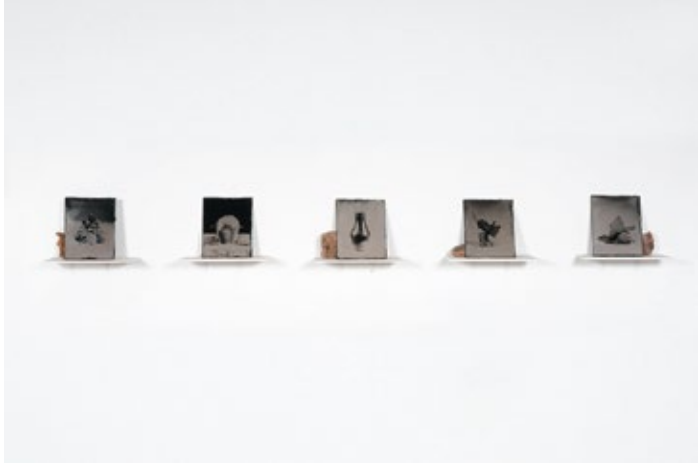
She has a B.F.A. in Fine Arts and Art History from the Savannah College of Art and Design. What she calls a "Masters Degree" from working and living in New York City for over 12 years, and has been living in Madrid.

After relocating to Madrid, Spain she became a collaborator of El Pais Semanal, Marie Claire, and other magazines where she produced hundreds of assignments and portraiture worldwide then to be distributed and archive represented by Redux Pictures in New York City. Advertising and marketing campaigns include still photographs and videos for Coca-Cola, Mercedes, Visa, Renault, Movistar, Vodafone, and many more. Personal projects include curatorial collections exhibited in galleries and festivals such as PhotoEspaña, ICP, Art Basel Miami, Paris Photo, etc. Recent awards include Female in Focus with the British Journal of Photography, Tokyo Photo, Lens Culture, and American Photography. Teaching includes workshops at PHE in Madrid, Spain, Madrid Content School, S.C.A.D. in Savannah Georgia, UNWTO in China and Guest Speaker in India and Mexico, and the list goes on. She is also currently the Director of the Masters of Photography Program at IED in Madrid.

Her photographic style is in the artistic documentary genre with a humanitarian twist based from a background of knowledge not only in fine arts but the history of photography with a contemporary perspective.

It is an obvious visual transition using other mediums like ceramics and sculpture through conceptual research in producing this actual project which connects and interlaces with her background.

This has taken her to be awarded at the International Talavera La Reina Contemporary Ceramics Competition in 2021, a group exhibition at Daniel Zuleaga Museum in Segovia, an artistic residency this coming January 2024 at Farm Studio in Rajasthan, India, and the construction of an art studio on her farm in Peñarrubia, Sierra del Segura in Spain.



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HORNO CIEGO COLLECTION

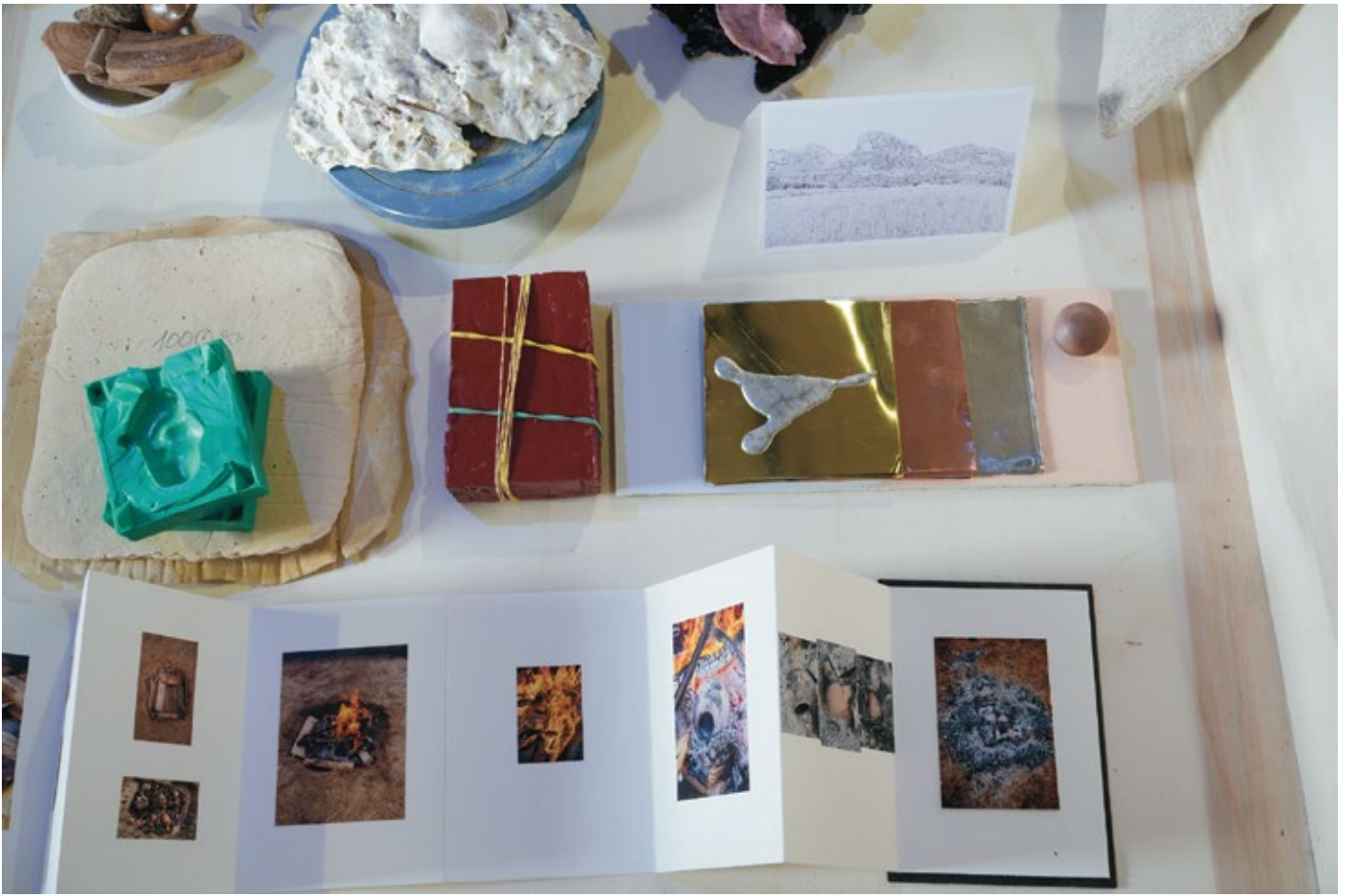
Separated into 4 groups and presented as installations.

1. Series of still lifes using my ceramic works of art and found objects of importance as subjects with the plate collodion process.
2. Series of sculptural installations of found menilites, reproduced in clay, tin, and bronze.
3. Collection of clay works all made from wild clay, build by hand, pit fired and then presented together.
4. A pine box holding references of documents, sketches, photographs, molds, and clay tests showing process and research.



“Box Of Treats”

A pine box holding references of documents, sketches, photographs, molds, and clay tests showing process and research.





Installation of Ceramic Works

Individual ceramic works of art positioned together in a presentation. Each work is made from wild gathered filtered clay matured in Peñarrubia, built by coils with drawings and words etched on its surface, and sometimes bisque fired before pit firing with combustible materials.



"The American Dream"



"Scribbles From Smoke"



"Holy Cow"



"Stiches"



"Electrical Storm"



"Psychotherapy"



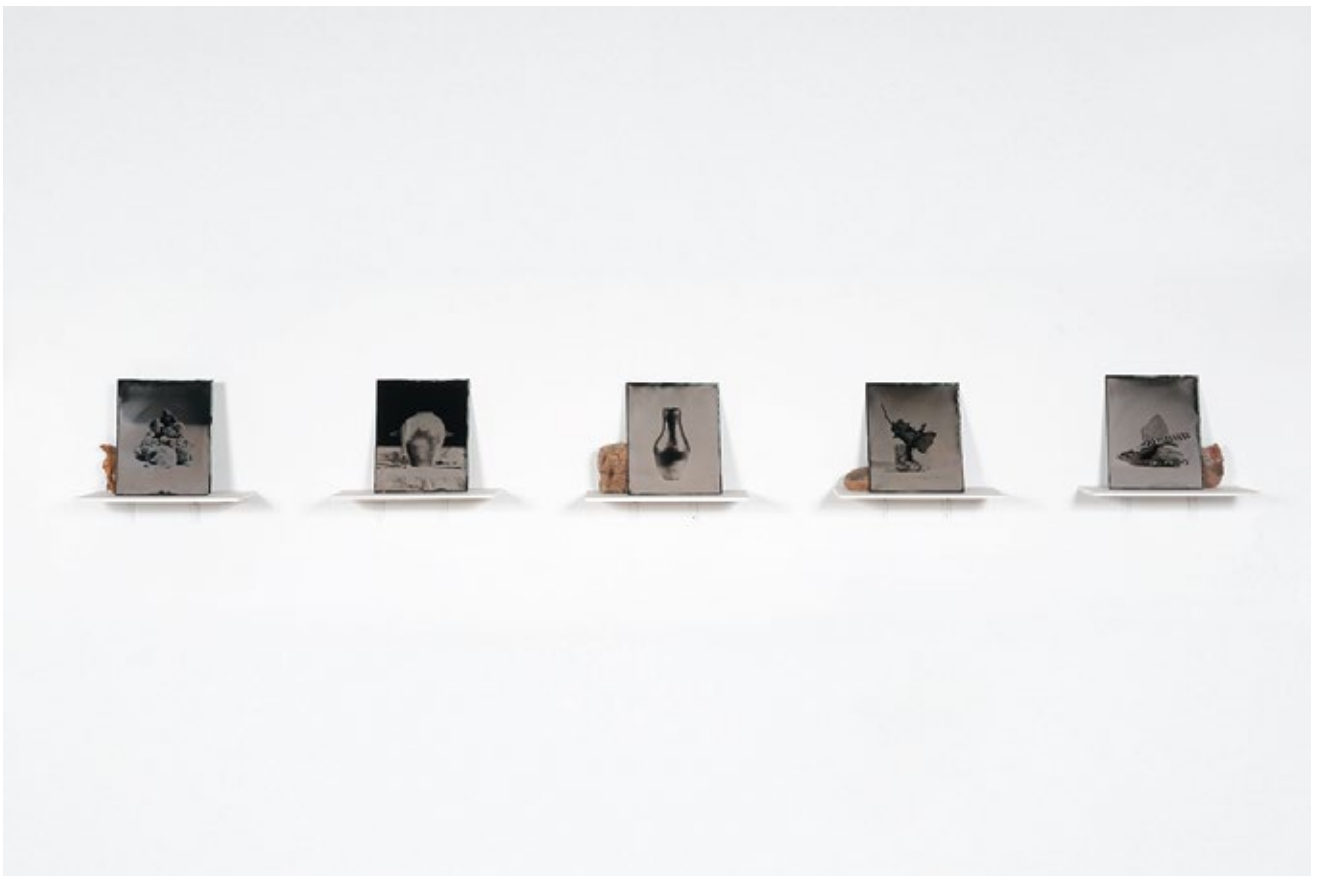
"The Spanish Galleon"



"Horno Ciego"



"My Family Tree"



Installation Series Wet Plate Collodions.

Series of 5,8 x 10 inch still lifes using my ceramic works of art and found objects of importance as subjects and the technique of wet plate collodion.



"Sphinx"



"My Idols"



"Snowman Walking"



"Bottle"

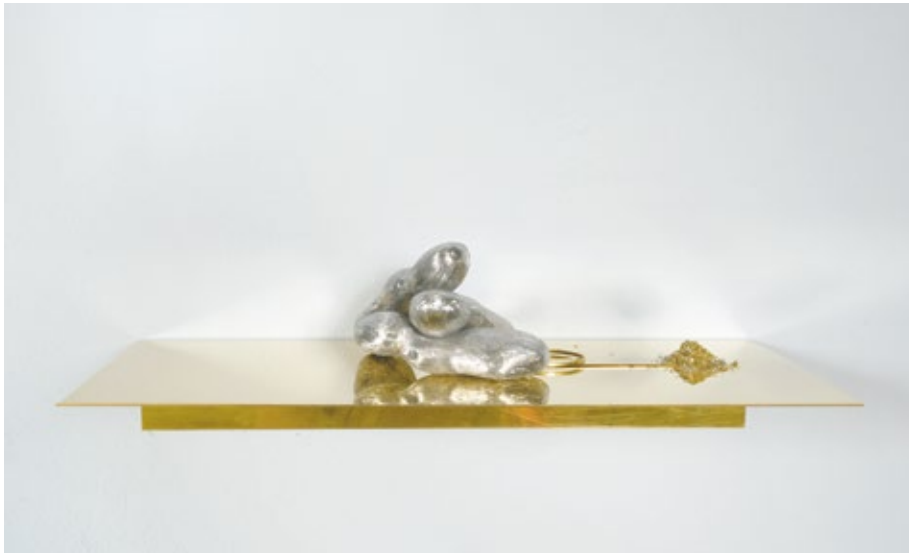


Installation Idols

Series of 5 sculptural installations of found menilites "idols", reproduced in clay, tin, and bronze.



"Big Brothers"



"Idoling Big Brothers"



"Balanced Act"



"Stepsisters"



HORNO CIEGO EXPO
NAVE OPORTO. MADRID. JUNE 21, 2023





HORNO  CIEGO