

Gabriela Gamboa

My work focuses on the intangible transformation of landscape, considering place as a specific location and space as a “practiced place” activated by actions and narratives.

With this focus I have been working on an ongoing project that speaks of displacement and exile imposed by the effect of misguided political agendas and the effect of the imprint caused by this, the loss of structure through the disappearance of infrastructure and our changing relationship to our surroundings.

Shifting between black and white and color within a photograph allows the image to speak subtly of erosion and depletion giving way to transformation within the image itself.

This group of photos is a selection from the past 5 years of work and includes work from the Salt House and The Pool taken in an abandoned salt mine and resort on the western coast of Venezuela and two photos from my more recent work in Miami, Scathing and Detail.

BIO

Gabriela Gamboa is a multicultural artist who has spent the better part of her life in transit between countries and cultures while based mainly in Venezuela. After obtaining her Bachelors in Art and Design from the University of Chicago, Gamboa worked internationally as a still photographer in the film industry, where she began her research into the new media taking hold during the 1980's in the visual arts.

The element of displacement and the need to mimic her environment has been present in her work from her earliest experimentations in film, performance, video, multimedia installations and photography, thus her artwork is informed by those strategies of communication and camouflage that have marked her own life.

In the early nineties she co-founded the experimental multimedia ensemble POLYBURO and was a member of the electronic music collective MUSIKAUTOMATIKA using the interrelation between multiple mediums as they refer to current affairs and deepening her belief in artistic collaboration.

In 2002 Gabriela Gamboa was awarded the prestigious Michelena Biennale prize in Venezuela, in the midst of severe political upheaval.

From that moment on and given the political scenario that has now been in place for the last twenty two years in Venezuela, Gabriela Gamboa began to confront the loss of freedom in her work, returning to the use of the body as a medium and the personal as an act of political manifestation.

Gabriela Gamboa holds an MFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design, where she has also been a mentor and speaker. Most recently she was a visiting artist at Maryland Institute College of Art, Rice University in Houston and the International Center for Photography in New York.