

**Magdalena Correa*****The Faces of Earth*****PhotoEspaña23**From 31<sup>st</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023Opening 31<sup>st</sup> May from 17 to 21.

In our first collaboration with Magdalena Correa (Santiago de Chile, 1968) we presented her new project *The Faces of Earth* made in 2021 in the Mezquital Valley, in direct contact with the Otomi women, one of the five most representative ethnic groups in the estate of Mexico City, in which Correa stresses her warning about people and places where life, for different reasons, is in a situation of neglect or oblivion.

Magdalena Correa uses photography as an artistic expression, but also with the intention of raising awareness of the extreme experience of groups of people with whom she feels compelled to share and investigate their geographic and human territories, isolated and completely unknown to us. Life in those spaces is almost impossible for natural, climate or economical reasons, but Correa shows us, with her photograph, how life finds a way, developing social mechanisms of survival that allow the maintenance of these groups.

Correa pushes herself to a real involvement with the local people, living with them enough time to understand the context of their life, with the intention to make us aware and think about life in those places, she wants to make them “present” before us in her photographs. In the Mezquital Valley, Magdalena lived together with Otomi women longer than a month; forgotten, marginalized, in absolutely precarious living conditions, but women who have been able to overcome all that via their association - their unity - to forge their own destiny overcoming violence, isolation, and becoming economically independent by the production of textiles, natural medicines, soap, etc. later sold in Mexico, thus becoming models for many other women. These groups of Otomi women have contributed with their initiatives to create the necessary conditions for other women to exercise their rights to a free-from-oppression life.

The photographs in the series *The Faces of Earth* are a bridge between the public and the presented problems, particularly the vulnerability and precariousness women live in, Correa has always pursued “to reclaim and honour women’s work, often vanished and undervalued”, starting her work in such extreme backgrounds as those presented in this project, to rise it later with challenges of our own world, such as gender equality and education for the young in values essential for the wellbeing of our society.

In the exhibition photographs and light boxes will be presented, we will meet these women , their surroundings and everyday nature and we will see how Magdalena Correa brings beauty and dignity to these places, to the chores of these women, whose reality she shared to bring them to us.

Magdalena Correa has got a Degree in Fine Arts by the Catholic University of Chile, she is a PhD in Photography by the Polytechnics University in Catalonia and Master in Cinematography ECAM Madrid. Her work has been presented in institutions like MEIAC, MAC in Chile, Cervantes Institute in Beijing, Sao Paulo or Chicago, CAB in Burgos, Casa Asia, Fundación Telefónica in Buenos Aires and Santiago, CDAN or La Virreina, among others. Her works can be found in private and institutional collections such as Museo de Arte Contemporáneo in Santiago, Chile, Colección Pierre-Antoine Ullmo, Francia, Departamento de Audiovisuales del Museo Reina Sofía, Centro de Arte Caja Burgos, Museo de Bellas Artes in Santander, Centro de Arte Alcobendas, Fundación Telefónica, IDB, Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo in the United States, Colección Carlos Slim, México, Colección Pilar Citoler and Colección Ernesto Ventós to mention some.



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