

Maison de fumée

The title *Maison de fumée* is inspired by the temazcal ceremony, which takes place in a sweat lodge built of earth. The temazcal has its origins in Mesoamerican civilizations from the pre-Hispanic era, notably in Mexico. During a temazcal, the skin is covered with clay. The stones heated in the temazcal are bathed in water and herbs that release vapors absorbed both by the body and sent back into the space through sweating. The elements present in a temazcal aim to lead the person to purify their body and mind.

This exhibition is conceived as a space that, like the temazcal, gathers fragments of reflections that question the notion of territory in order to interrogate the relationship that human beings have with their environment. The seven artists gathered here propose different ways of envisioning and thinking about the landscape. It is indeed through various media such as textiles, sculpture, text, ceramics, and painting that they implement different plastic and scientific processes to analyze, classify, transcribe, and study the physical characteristics that shape a territory.

Earth, pigments, porosity and friability of stone, plants, root intertwining, water flow, perpetuation and perishability of matter and forms are research axes that allow artists to propose another way of seeing the landscape. Regardless of the technique, the sensitivity of each artist testifies to their ability to listen to the living and to root themselves in an ecosystem that is their own.

