

Boxes art project ongoing – Resonance with interior – EH (Ina) Fekken



Together with Betty van der Kamp I was an artist guest at the “Kunst aan de vaart” event 2024 at Assen.

Homeowners make a part of their house available for art. I had a large, almost empty room at my disposal. The only piece of furniture is a large wooden billiard table, of which the legs are carved with floral motifs. A perfect statement for my ongoing project with my cardboard boxes.

I have been working with cardboard boxes for some time now. They all have the same size and have been used previously. On the boxes I lasered various motifs from nature, such as a root system, a chickadee, a grebe and primitive plants. Some of the boxes I left unprocessed, but in others I cut holes of different shapes, some were filled with paper artifacts. Like small viewing boxes.

On the table I stacked the boxes into a more or less rectangular pile: some of the boxes were sticking out which gave a playful and living impression. The installation feels as a monumental tribute to nature.

Hence, the title of the installation “Nature Building”.

This was the fourth version of the ongoing boxes art project on location. I adapt the stacking of the boxes depending on the interior of the location. In resonance, so to say. A church provides a different angle to the spectator than a dining room or a billiard room. So each time a new story is created. But with the same theme: my deep concern in how we as humans interact with nature. At the same time, my greatest motivation to make art. Climate change, the decline of biodiversity, the impending silence* hurts me and make me feel powerless. Being an environmental artist empowers myself, and I hope I can convey that feeling to the spectator.

I intuitively felt the combination with the ornamented table and the boxes decorated with motifs derived from nature could make an interesting statement. Connecting an object from the past, the old billiard table, with contemporary problems expressed by the boxes provides a stimulating interplay.

The installation invited visitors to watch and see or not to see, to look inside and create their own story.

The reactions to the installation were moving, playful and lively.

What more could I ask for.

To be continued...

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* Rachel Carson – Silent Spring