Quelques Photos de la Salle d'Attente (Photographs from the Waiting Room)

There is often a science and logic to the imagined. In this photographic series I work discarded paper into abstract tableaux, often to explore the mysterious spectrum between reality and illusion. The images are also a continuation of my experiments with the sculptural aspects of paper. My curiosity for the medium relates not only to its adaptability and translucent beauty, but also from a sort of reverence. Despite its ephemeral and quotidian nature, it has been the medium on which the history of man's ideas and beliefs has been recorded.

The series title, Quelques Photos de la Salle d'Attente (Photographs from the Waiting Room), was conceived during an extended period of ill health, during which I created the images as an exercise to deal. However my title has broader metaphoric application to the creative process and to life in general. Waiting alone is a mode beyond listening. Its silence creates of us an empty vessel for the unknown to enter and for mystery and gnosis to unfold. The attendant feeling is archetypal and powerful, and its resonance serves as the catalyst for my work. The series title also references a passage in John Fowle's 'The Magus,' when the protagonist discovers a sign while hiking in the woods that directs him to a 'salle d'attente' — thus initiating a surreal adventure of discovery.

The self is a landscape of pointed sensorial edges and amorphous redolent fog. From there emerge forces, subtle as the faintest whisper, that guide and inform — if we are quiet enough to listen. This state seems the opposite of our social media drenched culture, where everyone has been given a microphone and stage to turn the world into a battlefield. In jest, but in earnest, the day everyone decides to say nothing will be exquisite.

The photographs from Salle d'Attente were made 2013-2017. The Addendum contains two other sculpted paper series, tangential lines of thought made 2017-2020. The process of Platonic Variations combines photography and software technology. Each image begins with a photograph of white sheets of paper, often folded, which are drawn on digitally. If the Variations have a leitmotif, it is memento exsultare, remember to be joyful. The Psychological Aspects series is an exercise in repetition and its mesmerizing effects, and the images experiment with creating depth from facets as a playful metaphor for transcendence.

Thank you for viewing the photographs. I hope you enjoy them, as I have their creation.

Candace diCarlo May 2022