




EL Refugio EcoArt

Padrin@ Dame un Nombre

Artists in residence **Hall'Makwanda**

Curated by **Josè Abad Lorente**

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01. **El Refugio EcoArt**
 02. **Padrin@ Dame un Nombre**
 03. **Hall'Makwanda**
 04. **The Linking Line
by Jose Abad Lorente**
 05. **Vision For The Future**

A landscape photograph featuring a white, single-story house with a balcony on the left. In the foreground, there is a lush green grove of orange trees with many ripe, orange-colored fruits. Behind the orange grove, a dense line of tall, thin, dark green trees, possibly cypresses, stretches across the middle ground. The sky is filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting a bright but slightly overcast day. A dark grey semi-transparent rectangular box is overlaid on the upper portion of the image, containing white text. A thin white line starts from the top of the '01.' and curves down towards the bottom of the text box.

01.

El Refugio EcoArt

Who We Are 01.1

Collaborative Artist Residences 01.2



El Refugio EcoArt is a community, artistic and rural project directed by Josè Abad Lorente and Billy Stewart.

When we bought the orchard, we thought of following the traditions of the place and planting lemons. We joked with our friends that we would make a "gin and tonic theme park", a space dedicated to leisure, artistic creation, and nature. In 2002, for life's reasons, instead of lemon trees, mandarin trees were planted. The mandarin, which originally comes from China, was undoubtedly the best crop choice for Billy and Josè's orchard. China was the place where both of us lived and it was there in Beijing that we found ourselves studying Mandarin Chinese!

Billy and Josè has been living together in Beijing, London, New Delhi, Yangon, El Refugio, and currently living in Jerusalem, working in public health and art, where they share interests and practices. Together they created Abadi Art Space, an independent art gallery in New Delhi. In Yangon, Billy co-direct the Proud LGBTQ Festival and Jose co-direct "My Yangon My Home Art And Heritage Festival". Currently, they run the EcoArt Project as a team.



Collaborative 01.2 Artist Residence



El Refugio - EcoArt is a unique home and natural space to cultivate creativity, conserve nature and flourish artistic practice.

It is an ecology and art project originating in an agricultural mandarin and olive orchard. We are launching a new tailored and collaborative residency program for artists, writers, ecologists and creative friends.

There are two types of residency envisaged at El Refugio : a collaborative programme where the artists and the Refugio work together on joint projects ; and an individual programme where the artists/residents work on their own projects.





The individual residencies are a minimum of one week and maximum of three months, times and fees are negotiable. Residencies could include individual practice, or bespoke workshops. The space is designed for groups of up to 4 persons, though more could be accommodated by prior agreement.

The collaborative art residencies are announced by open call or by invitation and are tailored between El Refugio and the guest. The collaboration will be based on the guests' practices on art, writing, curating, technology, ecology, architecture, landscape design or their own creative fields and the Refugio's projects, needs and resources. The length of stay and collaboration will be discussed and on mutual agreement between artist and El Refugio.





For further info on the residency programs
please contact as : abadiartspace@gmail.com



abadiart.org



02.

Padrin@ Dame un Nombre

Context 02.1

Giving a Name 02.2

Between the trees 02.3





Change the tree number
for a **Given Name**

1



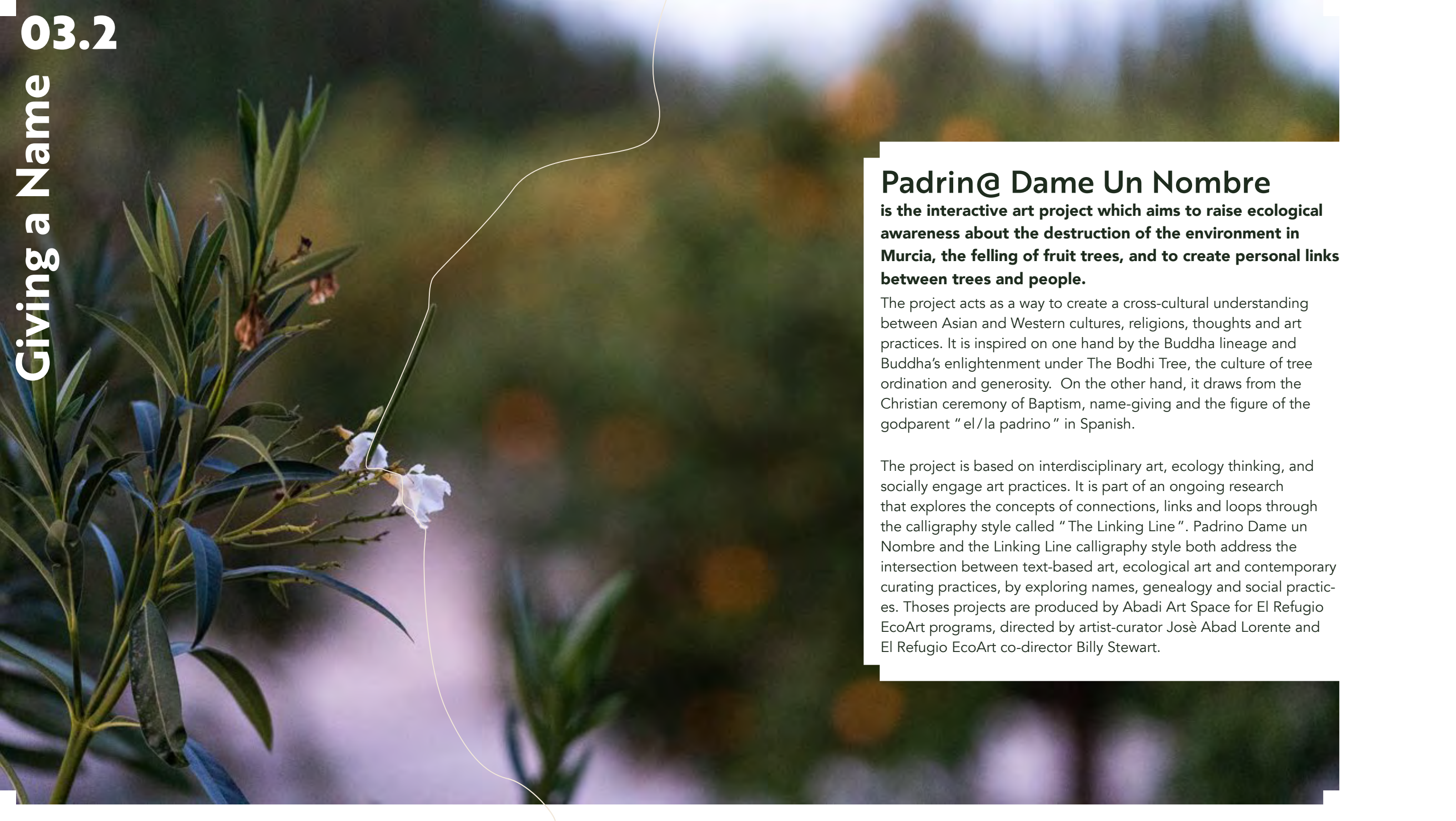
The Tree Naming initiative stands against the chopping down of fruit trees, caused mostly by the demand for "perfect" fruit required by market agriculture.

This means that driven by the global system of economy and markets, fruit trees must be cut down and replaced when they fail to obtain high yields.

The project is based on trees, people and relationships. It aims to protect, save and care for El Refugio's orchard trees. This mandarin orchard is large enough to be a family garden but is small for market agriculture, making it unsustainable. In the last 10 years, the harvest has ranged from 300 to 500 kilos of mandarins, and they have been lost. It was painful, sad and unfair to see mandarins rotting on trees and soil. Due to this problem, the idea of creating a tree naming project arose as a creative response to the unjust cutting down of trees, the destruction of the environment and the exploitation of nature at the service of humanity.

The project seeks to raise environmental awareness about the problem of deforestation and mass production agriculture. The tree naming initiative proposes to save trees by participating in the project based firstly in a process of adoption, secondly to change the tree number for a name, and thirdly to create relationships between people and trees by taking care of the tree, its fruits and life.





Padrin@ Dame Un Nombre

is the interactive art project which aims to raise ecological awareness about the destruction of the environment in Murcia, the felling of fruit trees, and to create personal links between trees and people.

The project acts as a way to create a cross-cultural understanding between Asian and Western cultures, religions, thoughts and art practices. It is inspired on one hand by the Buddha lineage and Buddha's enlightenment under The Bodhi Tree, the culture of tree ordination and generosity. On the other hand, it draws from the Christian ceremony of Baptism, name-giving and the figure of the godparent "el/la padrino" in Spanish.

The project is based on interdisciplinary art, ecology thinking, and socially engage art practices. It is part of an ongoing research that explores the concepts of connections, links and loops through the calligraphy style called "The Linking Line". Padrino Dame un Nombre and the Linking Line calligraphy style both address the intersection between text-based art, ecological art and contemporary curating practices, by exploring names, genealogy and social practices. Thoses projects are produced by Abadi Art Space for El Refugio EcoArt programs, directed by artist-curator Josè Abad Lorente and El Refugio EcoArt co-director Billy Stewart.

Change the tree number for a Given Name

Adoption Program

Each numbered tree from the orchard can be adopted when purchasing original photography prints that results from the residences in El Refugio.

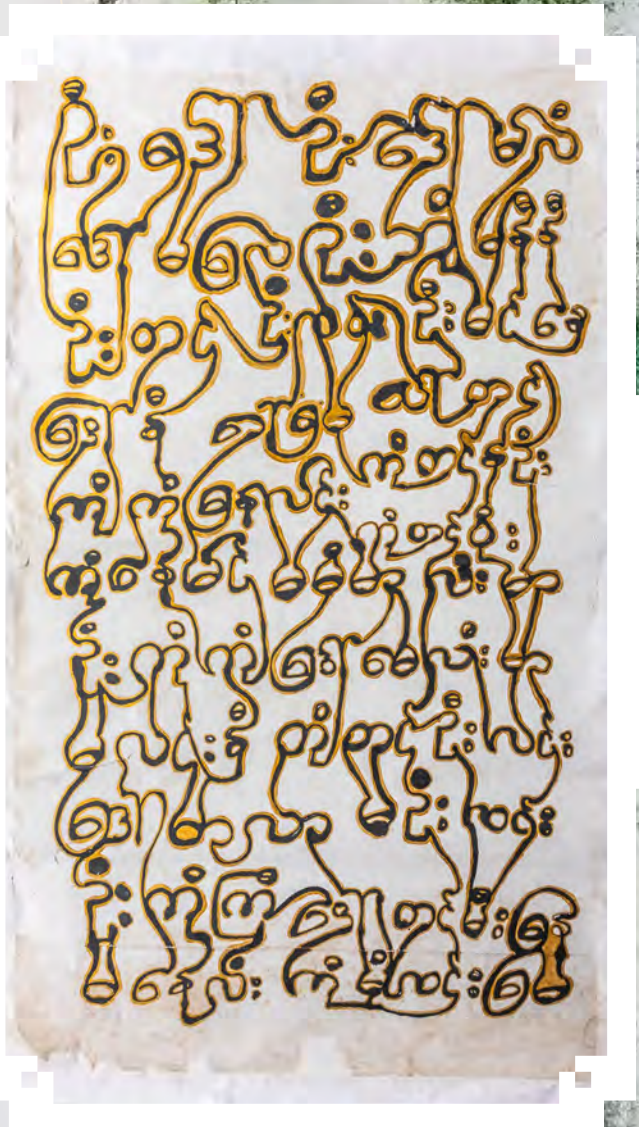
Giving Name

After you adopt the tree, you will become his godfather, then you can give it a name or surname. This fiction kinship aims to connect you with the tree, so you can build up a family relationship between you and your adopted tree. This action contribute to promote the ecological thinking and to create a new lineage between trees and people.

Mandarin Donation

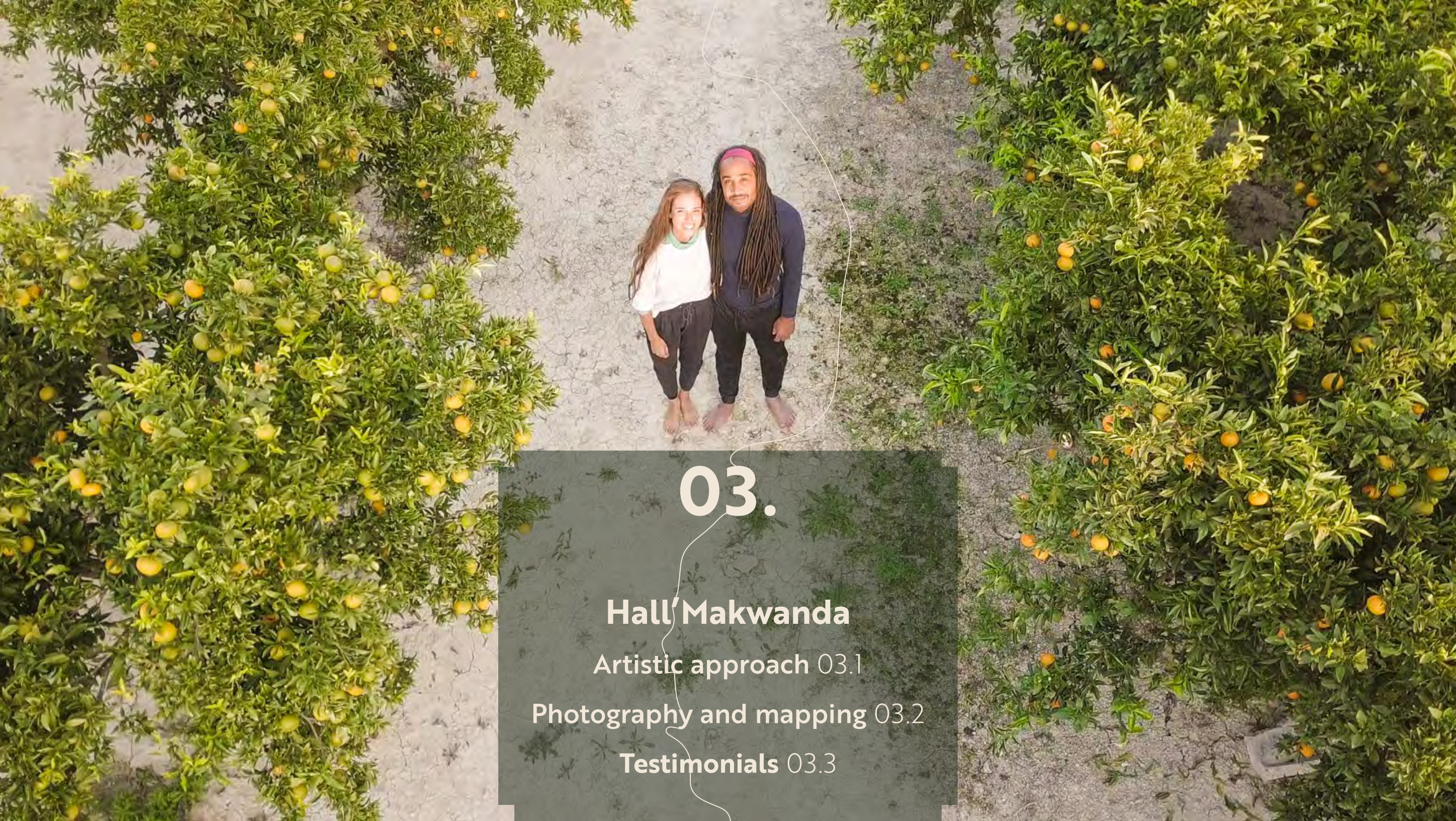
Each person who adopts a tree will have the option either to pick up 30 kilos of mandarins for themselves from their tree, or to make an act of generosity. This can be by donate the mandarins to people with needs in the community, including the elderly, refugees or people with illnesses.

Between the trees 03.3



Hall'Makwanda's approach of the map design is based on the same natural system as the fruit farming process. They followed the row lines to create this graphic map over an aerial photograph. This map is the basis and opening chapter to the second part of Padrino Dame un Nombre. This phase will consist of collecting the changed numbers for names and make a genealogical archived text. Then, it will serve to apply The Linking Line calligraphy style to create a new form of pictorial family tree.





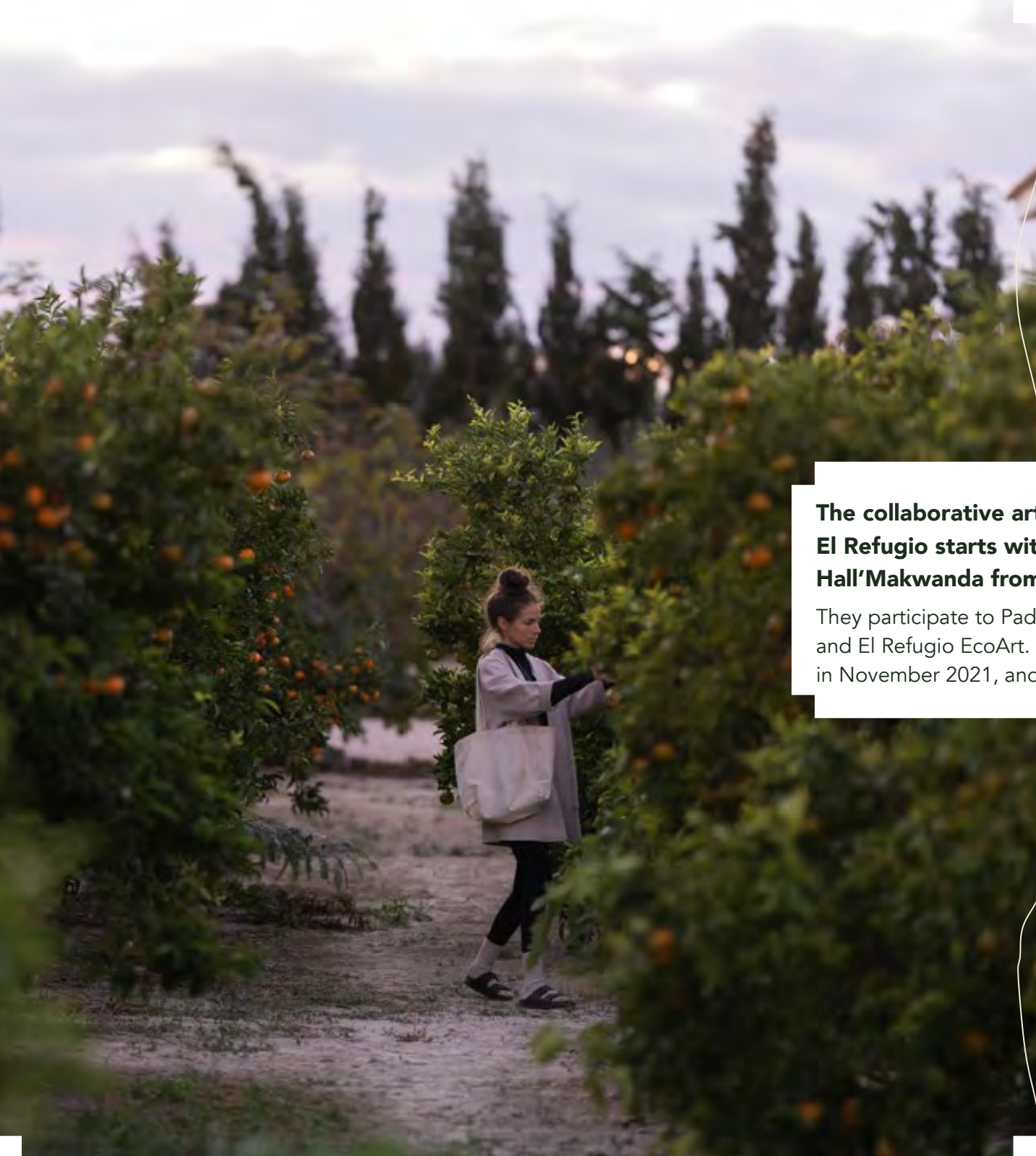
03.

Hall' Makwanda

Artistic approach 03.1

Photography and mapping 03.2

Testimonials 03.3



The collaborative art residencies at El Refugio starts with the artists duo Hall'Makwanda from Montreal, Canada.

They participate to Padrino Dame un Nombre and El Refugio EcoArt. Their first residency was in November 2021, and the second in May 2022.





Julia Hall « *Entendre la forme, voir le Verbe* »
" Hear the shape, see the Verb "

Hall'Makwanda is a duo of artists who are passionate about symbolism, experimental languages and new media.

They share a workshop named VÆNTRAL and create the enterprise like we create a work of art. The fruit of their union gives structure to creative partnerships. Through and beyond mediums, the couple are interested in alchemy and their spirituality is active: each creation is an opportunity to turn the psyche into a psychomagic scene. This process, otherwise called individuation, they listen to and bring it to light, they share it.

As humans relearn the imperative of verticality, cultures are internationalizing. In this rich context of worldwide change, Hall'Makwanda emphasises on intemporal archetypes and travel - multidimensional.

The approach is transdisciplinary. From plastic arts to digital arts, from relational aesthetic to astrology, writing, philosophy, they question then stage the power of transformation. Hall'Makwanda exercises a current question : how to operate the ecosystem? At the heart of their artistic proposals, we experience a rediscovery of relationship, being and the collective.



Matisse Makwanda « *Je se traverse - 1* »
" I cross himself - 1 "

Photography and mapping 03.2

The photographic documentation of the mandarin trees followed a sequenced movement where a number is tied up with a ribbon and hung from one of the tree branches. In this way, we can follow the tree's rows and identify each tree as a specific and unique entity.



Photography and mapping 03.2

The artists produced the **orchard map and a photographic documentation.**

There are a total of 165 mandarin trees and each one has been photographed once with the bow and number that hangs from the tree, a second time as a portrait and a third time to provide detail; capturing a branch, a leaf or fauna.



Photography and mapping 03.2

The four angles interpret by the artists :

full-foot objective,
original perspective,
symbolic identification,
aerial view.

This was done with the help of three camera lens (14mm, 135mm, 35mm) and a drone.

The 4:5 ratio have been choose for the non-aerial views, so that it can unify the whole.

#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



#6



#7



#8



Photography and mapping 03.2



The documentation is a way to personify the trees and make them individuals. It is based on a portrait style which is more commonly used to capture the physical and psychological qualities of people. By taking trees as a subject, as living and individual beings, the photographs then begin to reveal all their qualities and uniqueness.



**In my practice,
I love to connect the elements to a thread.**

It reveals the fact that each of them are an integral part of a whole, a constitution of a world made up of complexity. The thread supports this world, the object in itself. The object "is" through the storytelling of an entire ecosystem. The thread is interior, a trajectory of a contest of encounters. Each small and large ecosystem is the work of a marriage of elements; everything that exists is a work of love. The "connecting work" done by the thread reveals the spiritual roots of thing, a hidden and alive realm.

**Finally, the creative process in
Padrino Dame un Nombre is the experience
of a continuous thread in itself.**

The experience of this ribbon rocked me at each stage of the work, like a long meditation. To be in the "Doing" of the connection and meanwhile, being something else.

From the mapping work, to all the steps of the creation of labels, ribbons, and them to tie to the labels, find the branch to retie this ribbon: everything would contribute to the long gesture dedicated to the fields, to the trees. This experience - an unrolling of the ribbon - transported me into a communion with the place, the trees, their life.

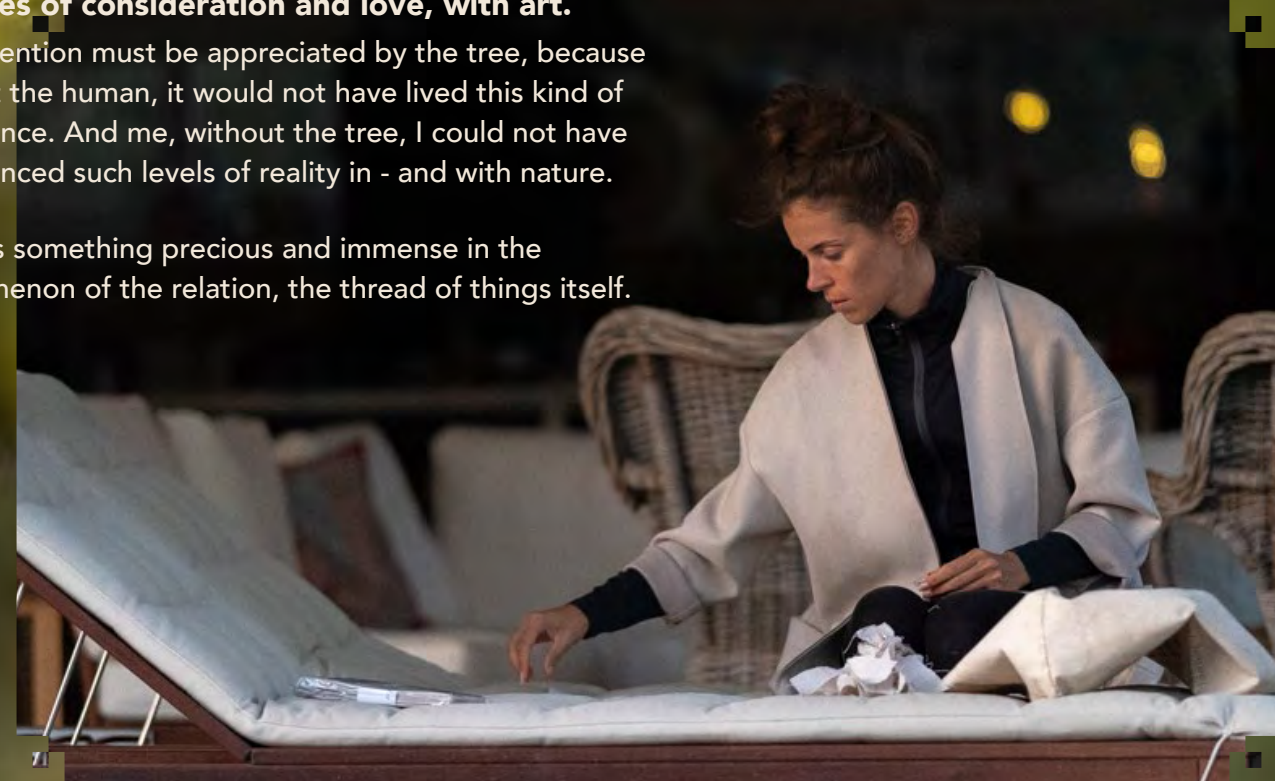


**I thought to myself,
trees are used to live as trees.**

**But humans can increase their way to live, with
gestures of consideration and love, with art.**

This attention must be appreciated by the tree, because without the human, it would not have lived this kind of experience. And me, without the tree, I could not have experienced such levels of reality in - and with nature.

There is something precious and immense in the phenomenon of the relation, the thread of things itself.



photographing all the mandarins trees
was a positive challenge

every one has a particular way
to be grounded
to do photosynthesis
to bend his branches

host others like bees or birds

different levels of reality are animating the trees

I see
adapt myself

receive
what She prepared
for us poets
Nature is limitless

what's this fruit that has never been eaten?

while climbing
my camera
on the field
I saw overripe fruits sleeping
near the roots

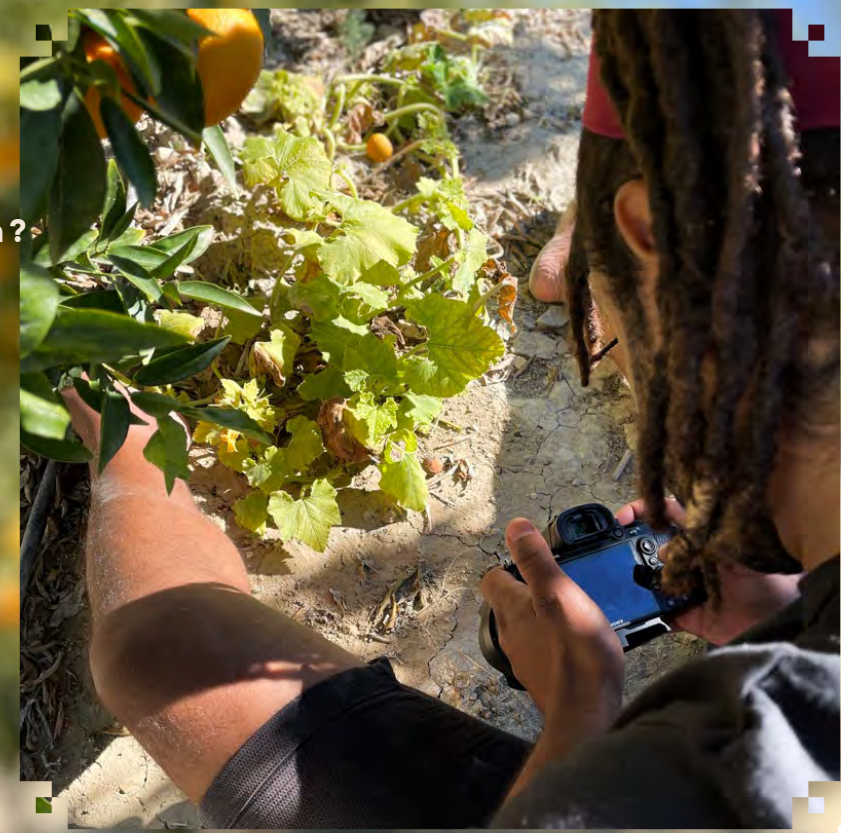
I follow the line
He fall in
evidence

the sun that nourish deep down
is the same that stands up high

the tree connects them

artwork in El Refugio
is desired homework

is to reveal beauty
inside the home
inside abundance
trees fruits sun
so many spaces to create

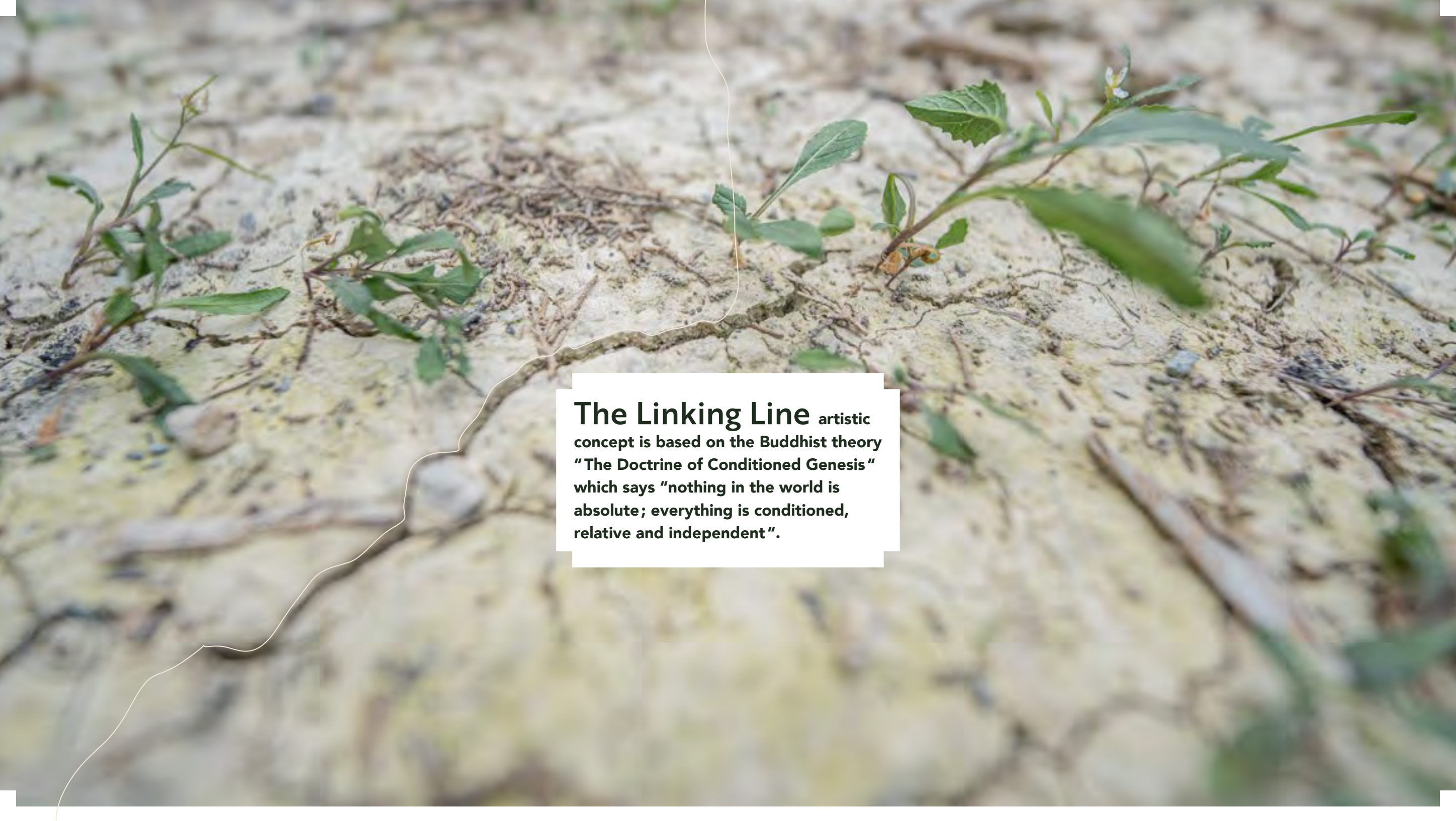


04.

The Linking Line by Jose Abad Lorente

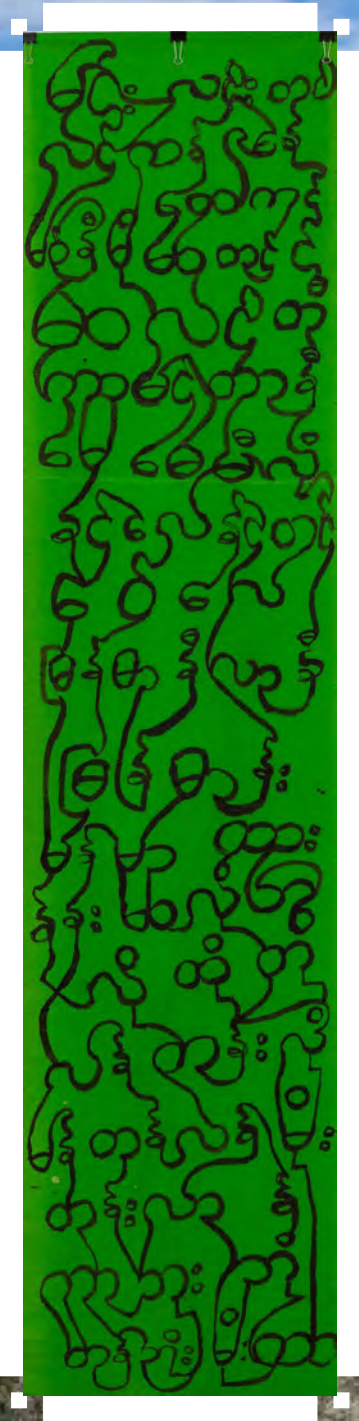
Introduction 04.1

People, trees and lineage 04.2

A photograph of a sandy, cracked ground with sparse green plants and a thin, light-colored line tracing a path across the surface. The line starts from the bottom left and moves towards the top right, following the cracks in the sand. The plants are small and green, with some having small white flowers. The overall scene is a close-up of a natural, somewhat desolate environment.

The Linking Line artistic concept is based on the Buddhist theory "The Doctrine of Conditioned Genesis" which says "nothing in the world is absolute; everything is conditioned, relative and independent".

Introduction 04.1



Josè Abad Lorente "The Linking Line", 2018

This factor is conditioned as well as conditioning, therefore they are all independent, connected and conditioned, and this is considered as a circle rather than a chain.

- *Rahula Walpola*

The Linking Line conceptual calligraphy style is based on the statement that everything is connected, interdependent and circular. As an artistic practice point of departure, it takes the cursive style of Chinese calligraphy, based on "One single stroke". This is a technique in which several characters are connected in a single uninterrupted brush stroke.

The Linking Line artistic investigation explores in this way of deconstruction of a text and explores the aesthetics of the meaningless.

Through the Linking Line intervention on a text, in which connects and joins all words together, the written text is converted into one single calligraphic line. The Linking Line, which loops all around and has neither beginning or end, creates a mesh of threads, however in resonance of deeper connections.

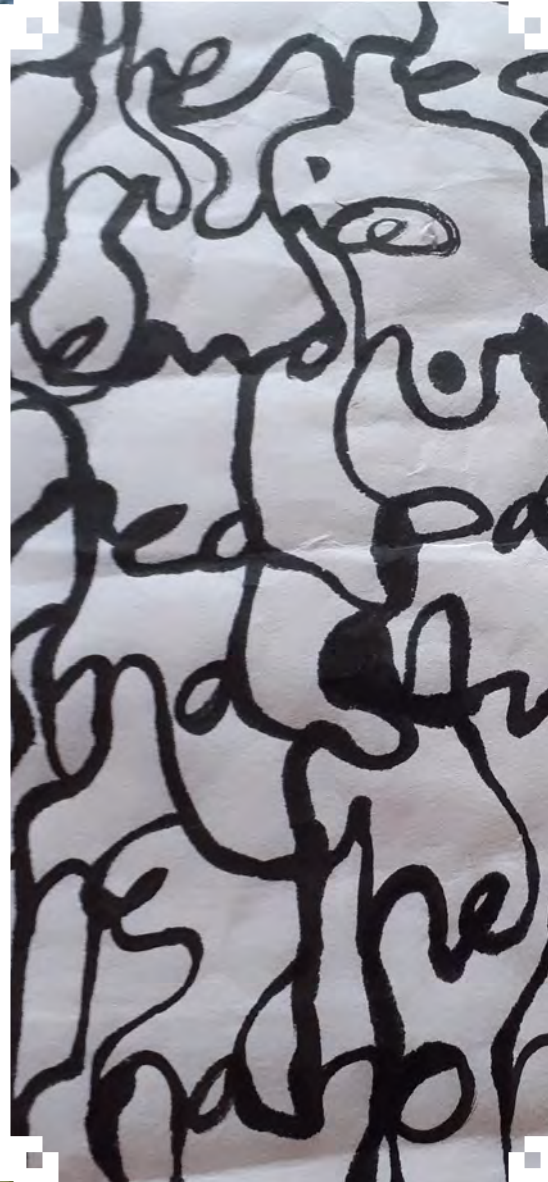
Our mission is to promote environmental awareness based on art and social practice, and to foster collaborative and community-based strategies of art making.

People, Trees and Lineage 04.2



José Abad Lorente — William Raymond Stewart
MARIA ABAD LORENTE — Miguel Valero Valero
MARCOS TOMÁS-PABLO MIGUEL — María Santiago Valero Abad
LOUI ABAD LORENTE
JOSEFA ABAD LORENTE — VICENTE HERNÁNDEZ GARCÍA
NURIA Hernández — Inés Casanova AMARILUCEL GARCÍA HERNÁNDEZ
M.ª José Hernández Abad — JOSÉ FELIX SGOI MARTÍNEZ
VICTORIANA ABAD LORENTE — *quién sabe*
José Tomás María Abad
JUANITA ABAD LORENTE - FELIPE PEREA GARCIA
LORENA PEREA ABAD - ALVARO LLAMAS CARLES
Carolina Pérez Abad
María Elena Perea Abad - Maxi Hubert Heredia
PASCUAL ABAD LORENTE — FINA VICENTE ROYO
TOMÁS FRANCISCO ABAD VICENTE
EVA M.ª ABAD VICENTE — JOSE ANTONIO AGUILAR ALMAGRO
HUGO AGUILAR ABAD-AMAYA AGUILAR ABAD
SUSANA ABAD VICENTE — Daniel Galindo Martínez
NOA-DARIO- *Catalina* - GALINDO ABAD
TOMÁS ABAD LORENTE — ANTONIA ESCOBAR MARCO
ELISABET ABAD ESCOBAR — ALFREDO ISIDRO DOMÍNGUEZ
ANA ABAD ESCOBAR — *Almendra José Paredes Sánchez*
Tomás Paredes Abad — VALENTIA PERALTA ABAD
Virginia Abad Escobar
TOMÁS ABAD GANO — JOSEFA LORENTE GARCÍA

[A dense, overlapping collection of handwritten names in various orientations, some legible and some obscured by the ink.]



Linking Line Calligraphy explores the representation of the genealogical tree in a new artistic approach based on personal names, ecology, and lineage.

The project will gather the adopter's names together with the tree given name and build up a compilation of new hybrid family's, which will be the base text for the subsequent intervention of The Linking Line.



José Abad Lorente "Family names collection and Linking Line intervention", 2021

People, Trees and Lineage 04.2



The approach is inspired by the Buddha lineage and the Bodhi Tree, which is made up of twenty-nine Buddhas, along with the twenty-nine names of the trees where they obtained enlightenment.

The Linking Line, people, trees and genealogy explores lineage between people and trees. It focuses on the connection and relationship which is created by the Padrino Dame un Nombre project. The people who participates in tree adoption and name giving are now part of the new form of lineage between fictitious parents and trees, creating a new family, a new hybrid lineage between people and trees.



People, Trees and Lineage 04.2



Josè Abad Lorente "Painted Linking Line", 2018



Josè Abad Lorente "Painted Linking Line", 2018

05.

Vision for the future





The projects

Orchard Tree Exhibition

The artworks by Hall' Makwanda forms a transportable orchard documentation which contains hundreds of photographs. It could be a curated exhibition format traveling from the countryside orchard tree to the city.

Mandarin Donation Program

The Linking Line connects the words one to another, and as a community art and social practice, connects people and trees through the adoption program. Finally, the reliance then continues towards disadvantage communities and volunteers through the social project of picking up mandarines.

Mural Art

Inspired by the Buddha lineage, the Bodhi Tree and the collected hybrid family names. Padrino Dame un Nombre will be the base text for the subsequent intervention of The Linking Line, which will be painted as a mural on the El Refugio house's facade.

Next Residencies Programs

Artist Book Residency

Creative Writing Residency

Ecological Agriculture design

Landscape and garden design

Permaculture Implementation

