

YAGO DE ORBE



Title: Comunidad Nauhñil, Sierra Norte de Puebla

Year: 2019

Technique: Photograph

Measure: 60 x 45 cm; 70 x 60 cm

Location: Museu Palau Soterra

→ San Sebastian, Basque Country, 1963



In the images, you can see the works *Comunidad Nauhñil, Sierra Norte de Puebla* and *Mujer joven Aimara, Allyu Gorka*. These are chlorophyll prints of photographs, made by the artist Yago de Orbe in 2019.



Title: Mujer joven Aimara, Allyu Gorka

Year: 2019

Technique: Photograph

Measure: 60 x 39 cm; 70 x 60 cm

Location: Museu Palau Soterra



Yago de Orbe has chosen to print his portraits using a very unusual base: plant leaves. The photographer, born in the Basque Country, went to live in Ecuador in 1988 and, from then onwards, he began to familiarize himself with the concept of *samai*, which the peoples who live in the Amazon define as the link that exists between all living beings, such as people and nature. Yago de Orbe explores conceptual art and researches new techniques, whilst not forgetting the spiritual and symbolic meaning of his creations. In this case, the leaves act as a mirror on the human essence, but also serve the purpose of social critique. The artist is committed to social and environmental causes in Latin America, and one of the main demands is to protect life in the jungle and stop its destruction. Thus, he honours the *samai* which he has learnt so much from and, at the same time, raises the voice of the indigenous American peoples whose culture is still based on preserving harmony with what they call *Pachamama* (Mother Earth).



Leaves are everywhere, we are surrounded by them and, as the seasons pass by, they fall, fly and new leaves grow on the branches of the trees, bushes and flowers. We invite you to pay homage to the nature around us, just as Yago de Orbe does, and use leaves as a canvas to create your work of art. Select a photo that you like: it could be of a landscape, a self-portrait, a photo of your family or an animal, etc. Then paste it on the leaf you have chosen. Before pasting it, you could even crop the photo into different shapes if you want. The next step is to decorate the outlines, painting the leaves how you like, i.e. with lots of colours or monochromatic, with drawings or geometric figures, etc. Everything counts to express ourselves! Then, make a small hole at the end of the leaf, where the petiole joins the stem, and pass your thread through it. Now all you need to do is hang up your leaves all together on a branch or pole, and you have just created your own exhibition!



Materials: leaves, acrylic paint, paintbrush, punch and thread.