

ISSUE NINE | 2021

ÎLE MAISON

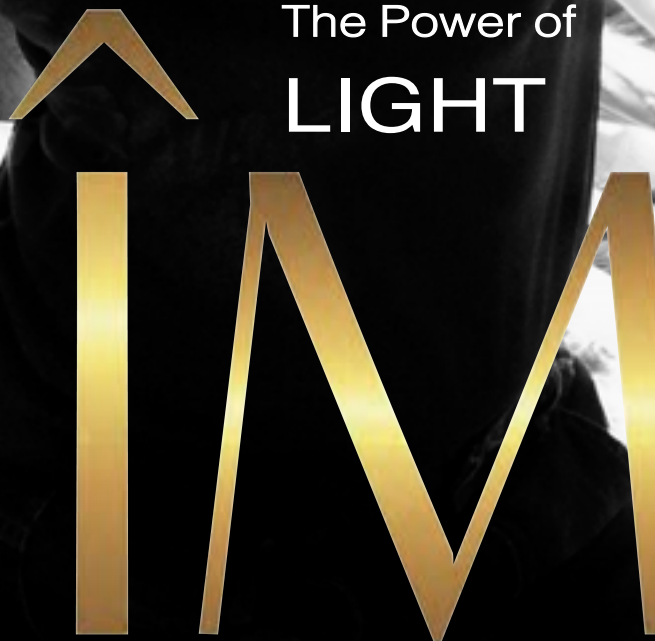
—ARTFUL LIVING MEETS WELL-BEING—



Healing
Lives

GRIMANESA AMORÓS

The Power of
LIGHT





GOLDEN ARRAY, Mumbai India, Photo: Grimanesa Amorós Studio

Portraits Photo Credit: Gigi Stoll



the POWER



of **LIGHT**

Grimanesa Amorós is a New York-based American interdisciplinary artist with diverse interests in the fields of social history, scientific research, and critical theory. Through her art, she conveys a sense of ephemeral wonder, entrancing viewers from different backgrounds and communities. She inspires others to become agents of empowerment.

Grimanesa Amorós

in conversation with Ilona Lee.

Ilona: What light means to you?

Grimanesa: Light holds an ephemeral quality; it engages us emotionally and captures the imagination. As a medium it has a unique ability to bridge across cultures and diverse audiences; we all connect to light.

Ilona: How did the journey for light sculpture installations begin?

Grimanesa: A trip to see the northern lights initially inspired the incorporation of light into my artwork. However, light has always been present in my thought process. In my childhood, the Peruvian sunsets and sunrises were a source of never-ending fascination.

Ilona: In what ways can visitors engage with the work? What do you hope they take away from these interactions?

Grimanesa: Engagement comes in the form of personal connection, leading my viewers to live more creatively and purposely, whatever their occupation may be.

Ilona: How do you choose the type of project to work on?

Grimanesa: I am interested in projects that empower my personal growth and provide opportunity for cultural connection.

Ilona: When and how did your work start getting recognition?

Grimanesa: Being an artist is a life journey. For a time, creating work and sharing it was my only reward and recognition. However, if you love what you do, the rest follows.

"Light holds an ephemeral quality; it engages us emotionally and captures the imagination. As a medium it has a unique ability to bridge across cultures and diverse audiences; we all connect to light."



GOLDEN ARRAY, Mumbai India, Photo: Grimanesa Amorós Studio

"Life motto LPP: Love, Passion, and Perseverance"

Ilona: Having had work exhibited in different locations internationally including the UK, China, USA, India, Israel, and Tel Aviv, what is the purpose Grimanesa Amoros Studio wants to convey through your works?

Grimanesa: My light sculptures convey connection and a unique experience with technology. They form relationships encompassing the community, architecture, and historical events—the past meeting the future.

Ilona: What it means to live an Artful Life?

Grimanesa: Stay curious and inspire others to think creatively, even if they may not be a “creative”. I am often invited as a keynote speaker at Universities, where I lecture about my work and life as an artist. I always mention my favorite acronym and life motto LPP: Love, Passion, and Perseverance.

Ilona; How can art help our mental health and well-being?

Grimanesa: When creating monumental sculptures, I consider how our architectural surroundings affect our state of mind and well-being.

Art provides us with a means of accessing our emotional selves. It makes us more empathetic, giving us a space to nurture and prosper.

Ilona: What is Home for you?

Grimanesa: I travel extensively, but I consider New York City to be my home-base.

Ilona: What is the next project for GA Studio?

Grimanesa: I have upcoming projects with the city of New York, San Diego, Miami, Nebraska, and I am working with other countries such as Mexico, Germany, and Turkey.

"Art provides us with a means of accessing our emotional selves. It makes us more empathetic, giving us a space to nurture and prosper."



HEDERA, Brooklyn NY, Photo: Grimanesa Amorós Studio

PINK LOTUS

Light
Sculpture
Installation

THE PENINSULA
HOTEL, NYC

by Grimanesa Amoros



Photo: Grimanesa Amorós Studio

Photos: Grimanesa Amorós Studio



Location: The Peninsula New York
700 5th Ave. New York City
Media: LEDs, diffusion and reflective
material, custom lighting sequence,
electrical hardware.
Dimensions: 31 ft Length x 41 ft Height x
17 ft Depth
Year: 2015

Artist Statement

A symbol of enlightenment, transformation, and rebirth, the delicate lotus flower sprouts in muddy waters. This dichotomy creates a meditation on the dynamic powers of the natural world—harmony arising from contrast, a principal balance in which I anchor my work.

PINK LOTUS frames the landmark facade of The Peninsula Hotel in New York, interacting with and activating the two Greek Goddess carvings, Ceres and Diana. This stark contrast between classical and modern engages the viewer in a dialogue with history and contemporary notions of femininity.

Artists are mirrors to a complex universe; it is from this perspective that I communicate. The work is an ongoing investigation of the human condition, interpersonal relationships, and women’s role in society.

~ *Grimanesa Amoros*

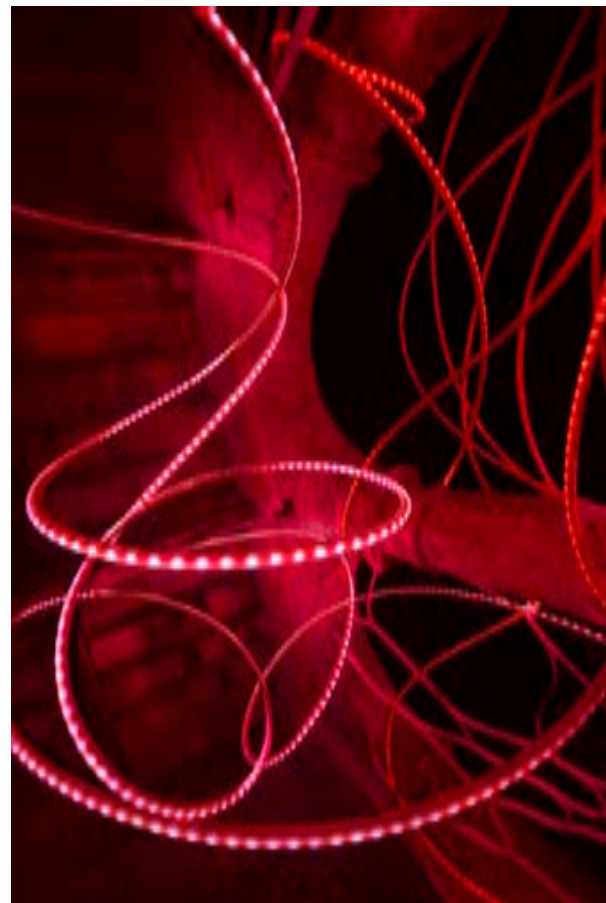


CETHA

Monumental Light Sculpture Installation

Palazzo Colesanti,
Viterbo, Italy

by Grimanese Amoros



Photos: Grimanese Amoros Studio



Date: 2019
Media: LEDs, diffusion and reflective material, custom lighting sequence, electrical hardware. Dimensions: 15 ft x 10 ft x 5 ft

Artist Statement

The dazzling strength of the morning sun beaming off the Civita di Bagnoregio square echoes through time to the Etruscans, an ancient civilization who built the city. The remnants of their culture still linger, intermingling with the contemporary bustle of my new surroundings. Human history compacts on a cosmic timeline; the rising and setting of our star fluidly connects one moment in history to the next. *CETHA*, translating to "sun" in Etruscan, contemplates this celestial omnipresence in burning red, providing visitors with a symbolic link with which to engage the town's heritage.

~ *Grimanesa Amorós*



Photos: Grimanesa Amorós Studio



CETHA

has red lighting with pink hues in its sequence, which represents the sunrise that burns red in the morning and streams its light throughout the town.

Photo: Grimanesa Amorós Studio