



# DE LA ROSA Y LAS ESPINAS

## Ángeles Sioli

Opening Event: March 23rd – 8 PM

Sala de Exposiciones del Rectorado de la Universidad de Málaga  
(Av. Cervantes, 2)

March 23 – May 10, 2023

Open Mondays to Saturdays  
(except public holidays): 10 AM to 14 PM / 17 PM to 21 PM  
Guided tours: Thursdays 19 PM, Saturdays 12:30 PM

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# De la rosa y las espinas

Ángeles Sioli

***De la rosa y las espinas [Of Rose and Thorns]*** is a project by Ángeles Sioli divided into multiple disciplines and artistic procedures such as drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, photo collage, pictorial embroidery, video, object, and action. Acting both as separate and intertwined disciplines, she uses the plant world as a reference and grasps its meanings, its symbology, physiology, adaptive capacities and its diversity by handling biological, historical, sociological, linguistic or philosophical concepts.

This project is organized and presented as an allegorical meta story that relies on several rhetorical figures, such as the metaphor, embodied in the rose and similar elements of the plant such as the bush, and other tropes, such as synecdoche and metonymy, which give the composition freedom, movement and effectiveness. The red rose, its petals, stem and thorns acting as signifier and signified, Sioli gives shape to a semantic system that weaves a narrative with a social and historical background. By means of this technique, she confronts two relational models that she explains with a series of phenomena and events arising from the different methods of interaction between individuals, peoples and environment. The result is an open uchronia with no moralizing intentions whatsoever. It could be argued that this project is a syllogism that sheds some light on the path to follow.

The exhibition has been conceived as a complex system of perceptions based on sensory stimulation to draw a series of inferences offered in the most complete and resonant way possible. To this end, the ear is stimulated by audio files, the touch, by the petals of the exhibition, and the smell, by the fragrance of roses. Sight is also present at all times and participates with the other senses.

A resonant experience will lead to “accumulation”, reflection and opinion. Similarly, it will act as a counterweight to the hastening of our society. It is the opposite of the concept of “liquid” and the fast-paced content consumption that rule our time, where we move non-stop from one thing to the following and we barely let them have an impact on us. In this case, it seems that the artist guarantees the exhibition a long journey, way beyond the time and space given in this room.

The arrangement of works develops a narrative in three parts: the rose, the thorns, and the utopia. It compares previous social paradigms, associated with feminine values such as inclusive collaboration, with the values of dominance and exclusion, associated mainly with males, which have remained hegemonic to the present day. The exhibition also confronts a real scenario with an alternative one, possible only with an exchange of the predominant values that, in recent times, have become subordinate, along with the role of women in the public sphere.

In ***De la rosa y las espinas***, Ángeles Sioli shows what the world could be if, with the same actors, the structures that have been imposed and have determined the relationships in our society had been different and had led to the cooperative constitution of a different universe based on a model of equality and collaboration empathetic with its natural environment. This is the only way to create «a livable life and an inhabitable world», as imagined by Judit Butler.

Isabel Hurley  
Exhibition curator