

In which moment does a tree fall?

There are sudden and unexpected events that divide life into a before and an after. In an instant, matters take on a different meaning. There are also events that are so slow that they never quite seem to happen. Step by step, almost unnoticeable, the image, our perspective, still changes. In the exhibition *In which moment does a tree fall?* different events, impulses, memories, brief glimpses and ongoing processes, are connected into new combinations, forming new events and stories. The work presented is part of a longer project that I have previously created in different parts and which has been exhibited at Valenzuela and Klenner Gallery in Bogota, Colombia, Köttinspektionen, Uppsala, Sweden, Gallery 54 in Gothenburg, Sweden and Mustarinda Air, Finland. At each location, a new spatial installation has been created from different episodes of a stop-motion animation - a personal exploration and a spiritual journey through various fictional forests.

At Gotland Art Museum another episode to the project is created. The animation has taken on a new form, meeting another journey consisting of short films recorded on super 8 mm by my father, Demetrios Sakellariou between Sweden and Greece in the 1960s and 70s. Also video material from today has been added. A new installation, consisting of a series of short poems and stories, written on the insides of covers to old children's books. The covers of these book, which tell stories many might recognize, are connected to my own and personal stories on the inside. Stories that also speak of experiences about being placed on the inside or the outside. About different relationships and roles, norms and structures. Other book-pages are cut apart, words broken up - forming new texts from the old letters. About divisions, boundaries and trying to break them. Then a blooming forest in miniature, inspired by the Chinese fable the Peach Blossom Spring and a journey to Taipei, Taiwan - a landscape that has seized in time, animated through a set of table fans. A mayfly, that wandered through the animation now appears to be trapped inside a glass jar. Life, death, loss and trying to catch the ephemeral, the unaccessible.

As a part of the exhibition, an original drawing from 1947 was supposed to be included, made by my mother, Anna Lisa Byström, when she was 14 years old. The drawing depicts a fallen tree in the forest and two children picking cones. It was submitted to a drawing competition for children and teenagers organized by the newspaper *Folket i Bild*, directed towards schools throughout Sweden during the 1940s. My mother's drawing was selected and exhibited at the National Museum the same year. In an attempt some years ago to seek information about the exhibition, I contacted the National Museum to ask if perhaps they had some information about the exhibition. My mother had spoken of this exhibition some time before she passed away but she was not sure of the exact year. It turned out that her drawing had been preserved and was stored in their archives. My own and my mother's childhood, altered roles, the forest and the fallen tree, my mother's sudden death - the drawing had to be included in my exhibition! But since the drawing was now property of the museum and not my mother's family, I had to make an application to the National Museum to borrow the drawing for my show at Gotlands Art Museum. After several months, the application was finally accepted. But since the regulations of transport were following the same criteria as for any kind of museum transport may it be a Rembrandt or a children's drawing, the loan was impossible to carry out for economical reasons. The searching for the inaccessible continues.