

Sofía Montenegro / Xavier Ristol

Fondàries (depths)

24.4 > 20.6.2026

Opening: friday 24 april - 7 pm

àngels barcelona C. Pintor Fortuny, 27

The works of Sofía Montenegro and Xavier Ristol propose two different ways of seeing and creating, yet they converge on the same question: of everything we perceive, what belongs to our gaze and what belongs to the object perceived? Their works engage in dialogue from this standpoint, inviting us to question our own perception.

Sofía Montenegro's develops her artistic practice at the intersection of installation, sound, image, and performance. These scraps are materials that have been stored in her studio since April 2024. They have served as tests and models for other works that have already been exhibited. Those works were conceived to explore ways of shifting the usual ways of perceiving the environment.

Here they are brought together to address what is not visible at first glance. The proposal is conceived as an invitation to look differently, to speculate on the presences that inhabit the space. Through the superimposition of these fragments, different layers of reality are configured that affect the distance between what we see and what we imagine.

Xavier Ristol presents an adaptation for exhibition space of a collection of works that are semantically interconnected. This shared semantics can be articulated through the following question: what devices or practices connect us today with the longing for transcendence and infinity that has accompanied humankind throughout the centuries? The body of work represents an initial exploration of a project the artist is currently working on, structured around three themes or areas where connections are drawn between culture, science and spirituality.

Sofía Montenegro (Madrid, 1988) studied Fine Art and Cultural Studies in Utrecht and Madrid, and completed an MA in Art Praxis at the Dutch Art Institute. Her work integrates various methodologies that connect the visual with sound and spatial action, exploring new ways of producing images in the present. She has presented her work in exhibitions and performances at the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (2026), Museo Lope de Vega (2025), La Capella (2024), LLUM BCN 2024, The Ryder Projects in Madrid (2023), the Tarragona Art Biennial (2023), Blueproject Foundation (2023), Centre d'Arts Santa Mònica (2023), Bulegoa in Bilbao (2023), Museo Reina Sofia (2023, 2022), Can Felipa Arts Visuals (2022), El Chico in Madrid (2021) and Kunstraum Bethanien (Berlin), amongst others. He has been an artist-in-residence at Hangar (Barcelona), Futurama Alentejo, BilbaoArte, CRA Matadero Madrid, and on the Artist-in-Residence programme at MACBA, CA2M and LCE, as well as at Addaya Centre d'Art Contemporani (Mallorca) and Lugar a Dudas (Cali). He has also collaborated on projects at CaixaForum Barcelona, the Tbilisi Triennial and the Kunstverein München. She has received honourable mentions and awards such as Barcelona Producció 2023–24, Generación 2022, Propuestas VEGAP 2022, creation grants from the Community of Madrid, the Government of Catalonia and INJUVE, as well as the Jan Zumbink Prijs and the Piet Bakker Prijs in the Netherlands.

Xavier Ristol Orriols (Sabadell, 1978) holds a PhD in Advanced Studies in Artistic Production and a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from the University of Barcelona. He combines his artistic practice with university teaching. His work has been exhibited at institutions such as the Fundació Joan Brossa (2023), the Fundació Joan Miró (2021), Fabra i Coats (2012, 2011), the Centre d'Art La Panera in Lleida (2011), Lo Pati (2020, 2010) and La Capella (2017, 2013, 2010), as well as in galleries such as Estrany-de la Mota (2012), àngels barcelona (2022, 2010), Bombon Projects (2019, 2018) and Sis Galeria (2021). He has received research and creation grants in the fields of art and thought, such as Barcelona Crea (2025), the CONCA grant (2009, 2010) and the OSIC grant (2020), respectively; the Fundació Guasch Coranty grant (2010) and BCN Producció de La Capella (2009), amongst others. He has been awarded the BIAM – Biennial d'Art Ciutat d'Amposta (Lo Pati, 2011), the Biennial de Valls (Museu de Valls, 2012) and the Fundació Guasch Coranty International Painting Prize (Tecla Sala, 2018). He has also been a finalist for the 6th María José Jove Foundation International Art Prize (2014) and the Miquel Casablanca Prize – Sant Andreu Contemporani (2010, 2011), amongst others. He recently submitted his doctoral thesis, *The Place of Images* (Ghosts in Contemporary Artistic Practices), and has published a project in the form of a novel with the publishers Club Editor and Como Ediciones.