### PRESS RELEASE / OLGA ITYGUILOVA 24/02 > 02/04/2016





Arghaël: Life Force–Breathe, charcoal and pastel on paper, 65 x 65 cm, 2015

# **Arghaël** Loo & Lou Gallery Haut Marais 20, rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth I Paris 3°



Olga Ityguilova: ALIEN, digital print, 52.2 x 71 cm, 2015

**Olga Ityguilova** Loo & Lou Gallery George V 45 avenue George V I Paris 8°



LOO&LOU GALLERY



### LOO & LOU GALLERY - GEORGE V

45, avenue George V, Paris 8° T. +33 1 53 75 40 13 Métro George V (line 1) Open Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. (by appointment on Saturday) contact@looandlougallery.com



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# Olga Ityguilova Hidden World

# 24/02 >02/04/2016 Opening reception: Tuesday 23/02 at 6 p.m.

Lou & Loo gallery presents for the first time the work of the photographer Olga Ityguilova, born in Siberia and based in Paris for the past 20 years. The exhibition features a selection of 15 photographs on the theme of water from the first part of the series "Hidden World". These images of transfigured landscapes suggesting a supernatural

world were taken during the artist's travels and walks

Olga Ityguilova grew up in Siberia near Lake Baikal, the cradle of shamanism, surrounded by a wilderness harbouring a hidden world.

"I come from a country where the parallel world of spirits is very familiar" she says. "We live with them – they are part of everyday life!"

During her childhood in the great outdoors, Olga explored nature in all its facets, especially in summer, when she flew over the tundra and taiga in a helicopter with her parents.

When she was 12, she began to take black-and-white photos (colour prints were expensive in the Soviet era). From her teacher, she learned to develop her own vision.

At 22, Olga left her homeland and moved to Paris, where she worked in the fashion world while continuing her photographic research in a variety of areas.

In the series "Hidden World", the artist's studies of landscapes seek to break down the borders between photography and painting. They enable her to rediscover the sense of wonder she felt during childhood when contemplating nature, capturing during her rambles the reflections on the surface of a body of water, the curve of a shoreline or an eruption of sea spray. The photograph offers her a way to seize the beauty of the world and reveal a hidden universe.

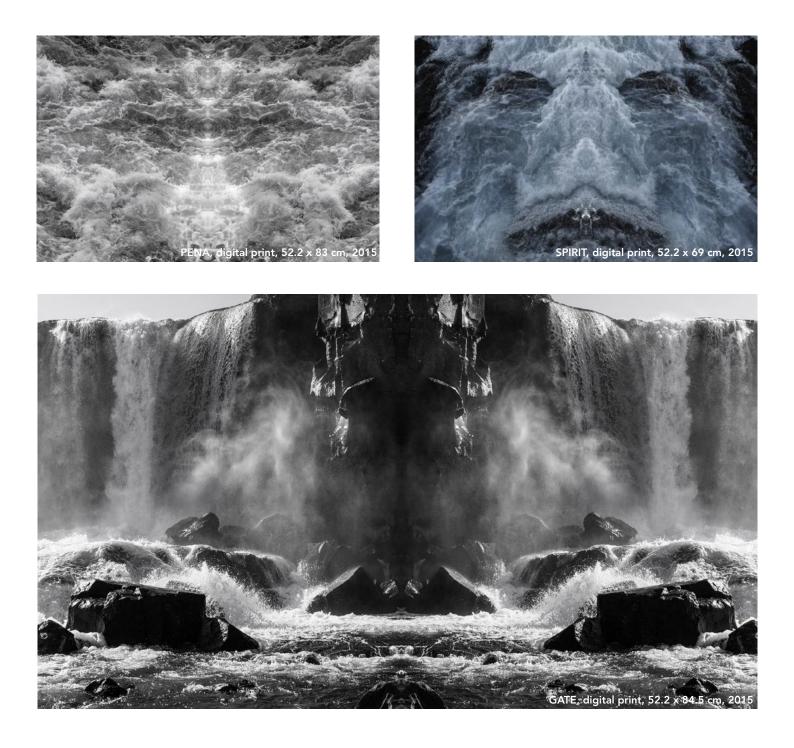
Olga never retouches her photographs but performs the same joyous ritual on each one: she cuts each photograph at a certain spot and then duplicates it to create a mirror image. This gesture establishes a connection between the real and spiritual worlds from which a vision springs forth. In the centre of each surprising and wondrous photo, the collision of the two images forms a totem teeming with details that evoke ancient civilizations. The image is gradually freed from its pictorial field, offering a glimpse of a fantasy world populated with supernatural beings.

Olga does not claim that these images offer proof of her beliefs; what they reveal is found in the margins of the image, mirroring our soul.

#### **KEY DATES**

- **1974:** born in Ulan-Ude, Buryatia, Russia
- 1988: studied photography in Ulan-Ude
- **1997:** arrived in Paris and became a model
- 2014: decided to devote herself entirely to photography











## ABOUT LOO & LOU GALLERY

The Loo & Lou Gallery, which works with both emerging talents and wellknown artists, has had two different spaces since June 2015: one in the Upper Marais at 20 rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth, and the other near the Champs-Elysees at 45 avenue George V.

Having two spaces gave the gallery the freedom it sought to compare different points of view, offer distinct approaches to an artist's work and encourage dialogue between artists.

Since human and artistic encounters are the basis for its approach and its programming, the gallery is also committed to accompanying its artists and their admirers outside its own spaces through collaborations with other institutions or galleries.

At the beginning of 2016, the Loo & Lou Gallery inaugurated a new program of first exhibitions to support its goal of discovering new worlds and supporting emerging artists through its programming. Olga Ityguilova and Arghaël are among those the gallery hopes to follow throughout their careers.

# **UPCOMING SHOWS:**

17/02 < 02/04 : ARGHAËL, LOO & LOU GALLERY UPPER MARAIS APRIL: CAMILLE GRANDVAL, LOO & LOU GALLERY UPPER MARAIS JUNE: OLIVIER DE SAGAZAN, LOO & LOU GALLERY UPPER MARAIS AND GEORGE V SEPTEMBER: JEAN-CLAUDE WOUTERS, LOO & LOU GALLERY UPPER MARAIS AND GEORGE V

