

## **Aline Mare: Modern Ancients**

Aline Mare has been exploring mythic lore and legend since her early years as a performance artist and experimental filmmaker in downtown New York. Goddesses, crones, and demons nurture her imagery: the human body, the earth, nature, life, death and the phenomenon of transformation have always been at the root of her work.

With her recent digital/mixed media series she continues to mine this rich vein of material, deepening her journey into the female psyche. Reinterpreting sculptural works from Greek and Roman antiquity that she has photographed on recent trips to Europe, Mare has been creating her own mythic narrative, adding images of mica, crystals, gold and other elements to suggest powerful geological forces of subduction and change.

The ruinous state of the sculptures- an arm or leg missing, a broken-off head- gives them a deep emotional resonance. They convey both the passage of time and the collapse of the physical world, speaking of power through the senses, igniting and illuminating the known and unknown.

Mare has mastered the use of digital media to portray her vision; she deftly paints, photographs, films, layers, smears, and fuses powerful elements into her compositions. Blossoms, roots, seeds, feathers, minerals and otherworldly fragments float or submerge into the statues and the spaces they inhabit. It is a maelstrom of forces coalescing into a rich tapestry of imagery that are all a part of the poetic web that Mare uses to weave her metaphors of indestructible life.

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