

# AMÉLIE LABOURDETTE

VISUAL ARTIST / PHOTOGRAPHER

Site: [amelie-labourdette.com](http://amelie-labourdette.com) / Email: [amelie.lab@gmail.com](mailto:amelie.lab@gmail.com) / Phone: +33(0)6.21.03.16.16

Born in 1974, lives and works in Paris.

Visual artist, photographer, Amélie Labourdette obtained her degree in Fine Art from the National Fine Arts School of Nantes. Recipient of numerous research and production grants, her work has been shown in several exhibitions in France and abroad (United Kingdom, China, Georgia, Italy, Germany), and is included in public and private collections. Since 2015, she has been carrying out artistic residencies in Southern Italy, Tunisia and the United States, which allowed her to develop her projects.

In 2016, Amélie won the **Sony World Photography Awards** in the category Architecture, with the photographic series *Empire of Dust*.

In 2017, she was awarded a **grant supporting contemporary documentary photography by the CNAP**, French National Fine Art Center comprising the State Art Collection, for her project *Traces of a human occupation* carried out in the Gafsa phosphate mining basin, at the gateway to the Tunisian desert.

From 2017 to 2019 she conducted the project *KÓSMOS - Plurality of Worlds as a Warburgian library* in the United States in the states of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, South Utah and South Colorado, during two visits: in February 2017 with a **Sony grant** and in March 2018, following the **Fieldwork Art-residency invitation in Marfa Tx** from the National Fine Arts School of Nantes.

In 2020, KÓSMOS is selected as one of the 10 finalists for the **Louis Roederer Discovery Award 2020**.

In 2021, she joins the **Photographic Collection of the Centre National des Arts Plastiques (CNAP)** with 5 photographic prints from the KÓSMOS series.

## AWARDS / GRANTS

- 2020 - [Nominated for the LOUIS ROEDERER DISCOVERY AWARDS 2020](#) (KÓSMOS)
- 2018 - **Grant for the Creation**, Pays de la Loire Region (KÓSMOS).
- 2017 - [Grant for SUPPORT FOR CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY 2017 / CNAP](#). (*Traces of a human occupation*)
  - Sony Grant, for the KÓSMOS Project: USA, 2017.
- 2016 - [SONY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS 2016](#) WINNER OF THE ARCHITECTURE CATEGORY (*Empire of Dust*).
  - Shortlisted, KOLGA TBILISI PHOTO, «Conceptual» category (*Empire of Dust*).
- 2014 - **Grant for the creation**, Pays de la Loire Region (*Empire of Dust*).
  - [Individual Support for the Creation / Cultural Affairs of Pays-de-la-loire](#), FR (*Empire of Dust*).
- 2004 - VISUAL ARTS PRIZE OF THE CITY OF NANTES

## PUBLIC COLLECTION

- 2021 **Photographic Collection of the Centre National des arts Plastiques-CNAP /5 photographic prints (KOSMOS)**
- 2017 Collection of the Museum / Art lending library of Angers,
- 2012 Collection of City of Nantes, France.

## SOLO SHOWS

- 2022 - **Ghosts & Monsters**, Michel Journiac Gallery, Art school of the Sorbonne, (Nov 2022), Paris.
- 2020 - KOSMOS - **Plurality of Worlds as Aby Warburgian Library**, LOUIS ROEDERER DISCOVERY AWARD 2020 EXHIBITION, RENCONTRES D'ARLES 2020 EDITION. Cancelled due to COVID pandemic
- 2019 - [CET AUTRE MONDE QUI EST AUSSI LE NÔTRE](#), (KOSMOS series), **Open School Gallery**, curated by Théo-Mario Coppola, Nantes, FR.
  - KOSMOS - **Plurality of Worlds as Aby Warburgian Library**, Le PAD/Collectif Blast, Anger, FR.
- 2018 - [Traces of a human occupation](#), Le Carré d'Art Gallery, Chartres-de-Bretagne, FR.
  - **Traces of a human occupation**, Chez Arthur et Janine Gallery, Rencontres d'Arles, FR.
- 2017 - [Empire of dust](#), Thierry Bigaignon Gallery, Paris.
- 2015 - [Empire of dust](#), RDV Gallery, La Quinzaine Photographique Nantaise, Nantes, FR.
- 2014 - **Non finito**, l'Île Moulinsart Art Center, 72, FR.
- 2012 - **Archipel**, The Gallery / Art House, St Herblain, FR.
- 2009 - **Been Here and Gone**, Pommeray Hotel, Nantes, FR.
- 2008 - **La Part Manquante**, Heidigalerie, Nantes, FR.

## GROUP SHOWS

- 2019 - [RUINS](#), Meadow Arts, WITLEY COURT, Great Witley, Worcestershire, RU.
  - [50.JPG, OSMOSCOSMOS](#), Centre de la Photographie de Genève, Swisland.
- 2018 - [Avant la poussière](#) (Under The Sand#3), [LIEU UNIQUE](#), curated by Marion Zilio, Nantes, FR.
- 2017 - [METAXU, le séjour des formes](#) (Under The Sand #2), **B'chira Art Center** curated by Marion Zilio and Fatma Cheffi, Tunis, Tunisia.
- 2017 - **Paysage, Fiction de la matière / matière à fiction**, Plateforme, curated by Jean-Baptiste Guey, Paris, FR.
  - **Sony World Photography Awards Exhibition**, Somerset House, London, UK.
  - [« Nouvelles acquisitions / Regards Croisés »](#), collections of the Angers Museums, Museum «Jean-Lurçat and contemporary tapestry», FR.
- 2016 - [NUCLEUS](#) (Under The Sand #1), **L'Atelier**, curated by Jean-Christophe Arcos, Nantes, FR.
  - [Satellite Spirite Art Fair/ Antique Future](#): Thierry Bigaignon Gallery, Marais marais Space,

- curated byThéo-Mario Coppola, Paris, FR.
- 2016 - [Multiple #6 / Galerie RDV](#), Nantes, FR.  
 - Tbilisi photo festival : **Night of photography**, Géorgie.  
 - **Voyage à Nantes**, curated by the Superior School of Fine Arts in Nantes Metropolis, FR.  
 - Sony World Photography Awards itinerant Exhibition: Spazio Tadini, Milan, Italie ; U Space, Beijing, China, Willy-Brandt-Haus, Berlin, Germany.  
 - [Sony World Photography Awards Exhibition, Somerset House](#), London, UK.  
 - Kolga Tbilisi photo 2016, Tbilisi, Georgia.  
 - [Féminisme\(s\): Eros & Nature](#): Joseph Antonin Gallery / Chapel of St. Anne, Arles, FR.
- 2014 - **Incarnés de voyages**, House of Europe, Tbilisi, Georgia.
- 2013 - **Incarnés de voyages**, Le Rez de Chaussée (RDC), Nantes, FR.
- 2012 - **Multiples**, Dulcie Septembre Gallery, Nantes, FR.
- 2009 - 713705, Heidigalerie, Nantes,FR.  
 - Art fair Cutlog, Heidigalerie, FR.
- 2008 - [Vers une Architecture](#), Château de la Seilleraye, Carquefou (44), Fr.
- 2004 - **Monter au Jour**, Fine Arts Museum, Nantes, FR.  
 - [Où sont les Femmes. Le LIEU UNIQUE](#), Nantes, FR..
- 2001 - **Pontage**, Dulcie Septembre Gallery, Nantes, FR.

## RESIDENCY

- 2021 - Art-residency at the NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM, Albany NY, USA. (Ghosts & Monsters).
- 2018 - FIELDWORK ART-RESIDENCY in Marfa, Texas USA: March 2018 (KÓSMOS). Grant from the Nantes Metropolitan School of Fine Arts.
- 2017 - Under The Sand / art-residency at the LIEU UNIQUE, Nantes, FR.
- 2016 - Art-residency Under the Sand #2, 2106, Gafsa, Tunisia. (*Traces of a human occupation*)  
 - Art-residency at the Art Center Island Moulinsart (72), France.
- 2013 - Art-residency at l'Usine, Tournefeuille /Toulouse Metropolis, France.
- 2012 - Art-residency at Tbilissi (Géorgie) and at Sarrebruck (Germany).
- 2009 - Art-residency at The Pommeray Hotel, Nantes.

## PUBLISHING (Catalogues / Books)

- 2021 - [FIELDWORK MARFA TEXAS USA – DIX ANS D'EXPÉRIMENTATIONS ARTISTIQUES](#), Ed: Les Presses du Réel.
- 2019 - [POST-SCRIPTUM 2](#), limited edition of 162 cop. Co-published by The(M) éd and Galerie Thierry Bigaignon.  
 - [Catalogue 50JPG, OSMOSCOSMOS](#), Edition: Photography Center of Geneva, page 66.
- 2017 - [Facing Value: Radical Perspectives from the Art](#), Edition: Valiz  
 - Sony World Photography Awards Book 2016, pages 106-109.
- 2014 - Collective catalog / 10 year of residencies to the Hotel Pommeraye, pages 34-43.  
 - Catalogue of the Non finito exhibition at the Art Center of Moulinsart Island.

## PUBLICATIONS (selection)

- 2021 - [D'a, Architecture magazine, N°288](#), Portfolio *Traces of a human occupation*. April 2021.
- 2018 - **EcologiK N57**, Architecture magazine, Portfolio, March 2018. (Paper)  
 - **TTT Magazine n°VII**, Portfolio, February 2018. (Paper)  
 - **AMC**, Architecture magazine, article,February 2018. (Paper)  
 - [FISHEYES](#): Traces of a human occupation, article by Lou Tsatsas.  
 - [ATLAS OF PLACES](#): Empire of dust portfolio  
 - **AMC**: "Amélie Labourdette as archaeologist of the present", article.

- 2017 - **Monthly Photography** (South Korea Magazine), July 2017. (Paper)  
 - **ARCH +**, German magazine for architecture and urban planning (August 2016) (Paper)  
 - [LE MONDE](#) : « Rechercher l'esprit du lieu, c'est tenter de saisir une aura qui interpelle la Mémoire »  
 - [Télérama](#) : « Quand la nature reprend ses droits, entre romantisme et apocalypse »  
 - [Point Contemporain](#) (Contemporary Art Review), Empire of dust, Text: Théo-Mario Coppola.  
 - [SLASH](#) : « L'archéologie du présent. »  
 - [Positive magazine](#), article by Carmen Mc Intosh.  
 - [Le Littéraire, Carnet d'art](#) , articles by Jean-paul Gavard-perret.  
 - [Objectsmag](#) : « Ecomostri italiani fotografati da Amélie Labourdette » , article by Luca Onniboni  
 - [Artpress / Under the Sand / Nucléus](#), article by Marion Zilio.
- 2016 - [The Spaces](#) / Portfolio - Article by Betty Wood  
 - [Focus numérique](#) / Interview by Nadia Ali Belhadj.  
 - [Gessato magazine](#) / portfolio.  
 - [Dodho magazine](#) / portfolio  
 - [ARPIA](#) (Association de recherche et production d'images en anthropologie et art)  
 - [L'Oeil de la Photographie](#)  
 - [World Photography Organisation](#) / Portfolio  
 - [Fisheye Magazine](#) / Publication : portfolio  
 - [Polka magazine](#) / Article by Alexandra Nawawi.
- 2015 - **Revue 303 N°140 « Ruines et vestiges »**: text : Julien Zerbone.2015 (Paper)  
 - **Revue 303 N°138 «Design»**: chronicles /Contemporary Art /text: Éva Prouteau, p 80-81. (Paper)
- 2007 - **Revue 303 N°96: «Né à Nantes comme tout le monde»** (Paper)

## RADIO

[France Culture / Les Carnets de la création by Aude Lavigne](#): Les architectures inachevées d'Amélie Labourdette

## EDUCATION

- 2000 DNSEP, École Supérieur des Beaux-Arts de Nantes Métropole (ESBANM).

To view more my work, please access:  
<http://www.amelie-labourdette.com/>

# NOTE ON THE ARTISTIC APPROACH

Amélie Labourdette's work, mainly related to the photographic medium, unfolds through the exploration of minor narratives and the revision of dominant historical narratives. Minor narratives challenging the hegemonic forms of knowledge and representation of the world and interrogating post-colonial history, ecology, in capitalism's era. The prevailing knowledge and power regimes on behalf of which we are governed, largely founded on the legacy of a universalist, colonial and capitalist Western modernity, are essentially systems of impossibilities, debt, predation, capture, constraint, reification and destruction of the world, which lack principles of expansion, becoming and potential.

She considers diversity of cosmovisions as knowledge places for re-imagining and re-founding narratives that offer an alternative to Western modernity and allowing to explore ways of recomposing the world in which humans could reposition themselves within a dynamic relationship with more-than-humans and the cosmos.

Her interdisciplinary openness to sciences and social sciences creates a complex work in which the modalities of representing the world are diverse and related.

Her work does not simply seek to reproduce the image of the world externally, to document it, but rather to explore the primordial strangeness of our terrestrial «environment» perceived as an encrypted world, in order to reveal its mesh, its inter-connectivities and its interrelationships.

In the perspective of challenging anthropocentrism, Amélie Labourdette considers identities as transitional, hybrid, open and processual identities. Her artistic work is accompanied by a reflection on the de-hierarchization of ontologies, understood as the modalities of interaction with the human and more-than-humans world (animals, plants, mineral and celestial worlds, places and spirits of places...). Her research on interdependence is based on a Warburgian methodology. Proceeding by analogical association of representations and by intuition, Amélie Labourdette brings together the links of meaning and form.

Amélie Labourdette's research and its disciplinary relationship (anthropology, history, paleontology, sciences of life, aesthetics) precede the realization of each project. They give the direction of a personal approach, nourished by the succession of events, meetings during all the stages of the project. Each project is first and foremost an investigation and invites us to create space-time knotting. These intertwine between the fictional and referential past, the lived present and the potential future, trying to build an alternative historicity regime.

Through a perspectivist reading of the territory and the capture of index traces, each project takes the shape of a constellations of photographic images and approaches the question of the complex relationship between humans and their "environment", the terrestrial biosphere, the cosmos. Projecting herself onto an analogue inclusive synthesis where hierarchy of knowledge of subject is abolished, Amélie Labourdette combine life science, anthropological and historical analysis with subjective poetry of images, by comparing different cosmovisions, different temporal strata.