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Beyond simple observation

Art has the extraordinary ability to evoke deep emotions and produce sensations that transport us to different times and places. An indisputable example of this is “*Estación Nómada*” (Nomad Station), the exceptional work of the artist Nuria Rodríguez which is being unveiled at the Espai d’Art Contemporani, ECA in Riba-roja. Through an exciting visual and conceptual journey, the artist invites us to reflect on our own mobility in an era of constant change, both geographical and emotional.

Her ability to transform the everyday into deeply evocative works of art results in a collection that goes beyond simple observation. As the artist points out, “the station is a place from which to perceive, to look at things, to observe...”.

In each of her pieces, Nuria Rodríguez reveals a unique sensitivity for representing the dynamism and transience of our environment. A magnificent exhibition that opens a new space for dialogue and reflection on the contemporary, and which brings together art, botany, philosophy and geology. Curiously, several of the rocks displayed allegorically have been collected from the very bowels of Riba-roja.

Over recent years, we have had the privilege of exhibiting the extraordinary work of international artists of the stature of Miquel Navarro, Enric Mestre, José Morea, Nelo Vinuesa, Carmen Baena, our neighbour, María Aranguren, Pepe Gimeno, Toni Cucala, Álex Marco, Calo Carratalá, Nadal, Mira Bernabeu, Ángel Marcos, Ana Palacios, Castro Prieto and Gervasio Sánchez. Great artists, all put forward

under the sound artistic criteria of the Advisory Council, who have made us grow and believe in the art and culture of our country, as well as turning us into one of the best cultural centres in the Valencian Community.

The ECA hosted the 1st International Photography Competition, with a thousand proposals received. We have also held collective exhibitions, such as “*Catarsis*”, with the participation of 37 artists from galleries throughout our territory showing the great diversity and cultural wealth of our community. Specifically, one of the great works exhibited at that time was by the artist Soledad Sevilla, currently at the Reina Sofía. Both the exhibition at the national museum and the one currently being held at the ECA by Nuria Rodríguez are curated by Isabel Tejada.

My hope is that “*Estación Nómada*” inspires each visitor to contemplate their own journey and the impact of their interactions with the world around them. Let the Espai d’Art Contemporani de Riba-roja offer a stage where these visual conversations can flourish, thanks to Nuria Rodríguez’s artistic journey.

I invite you to immerse yourself in this enriching experience and let yourself be carried away by the nomadic narrative that Nuria Rodríguez has masterfully constructed ■