Home 404

Sondi (2022)

Home 404 (2022) is a video installation that rethinks the concept of home and diasporic identity.

Home 404 is a three-channel video installation consisting of three screens with 3D animation, surrounded by ceramics placed throughout the exhibition space. The ceramic objects represent different types of objects from Cameroon that Sondi shaped and constructed from memory. With three digital masks for the audience to engage with, the work invites each viewer to experience the story from their own perspective while they navigate through the story. This emphasizes the hybridity of identity, especially in relation to the diaspora. Moving from the first mask to the second and third, the viewer is gestured to explore the concept of displacement, the loss of the motherland, and unfixed ideas around the meaning of “home.”

The work is a reconstruction of memories from Sondi’s home in Cameroon and is inspired by rituals that are embodied as masks inhabited by spirits. The installation is an imaginative and visual memoir of “home” suggesting it could be a non-space that is dynamic and in flux, constructed by history, language, culture, music, time, and, above all, memory. This fluidity of home and identity is emphasized by the constant movement of the digital landscape. Objects and spaces appear and disappear, transform and metamorphose, pointing to the fragmented and subjective nature of memories. The result is a virtual dreamscape that explores diasporic identities and memories that resound in the physical space, the digital space, and, suggests Sondi, the non-space—or the imaginative space in which the non-space exists. *Home 404* creates in this way a hybridity that is filled with new modes of being, in which the imagination becomes a tool for liberation.