

## Ilda David'

She was born in Benavente, Portugal, and lives in Lisbon. She attended the Painting course at the Lisbon School of Fine Arts from 1976 to 1981.

Nuno Faria in *Falar com o Tempo* [Talking with Time], wrote about Ilda David's work:

«Spiritual exercise and phenomenological search, meditation and contemplation, interior vision and vibration, Ilda David's pictorial practice is built from a total opening to the world and to the most visible and invisible forms of existence.

«Mainly in the last years of her work, in which this exhibition is concerned, that empathy manifests itself in the fusion of the elements of nature and in the almost material translation of its syncretism.

«The approaches to the natural world that Ilda David relentless and methodically engages in resemble journeys. Sometimes erratic displacements, other times methodical paths backed by a literary and iconographic cartography. She does it byherself, though with all the authors who are her fraternal and cosmic community. Mystics, romantics, beholders, botanists, sowers, travellers, poets, painters, astronomers and others.

«Her work is a kind of herborization whose programme is to turn life into artwork and artwork into life. A careful collection to small and big details, as well as to the wide expertise of the world.

«Truly, things are never only what they seem. These paintings are shown as atmospheric existences that cosmically dialogue with images and texts from the past. They offer themselves as fields of experience and understanding existence as a spiritual and metaphysical reality, that surpasses time, space, every distinction and hierarchy of living beings and the world, between reality and the perception one has of it. Reality is breathing.»