

## **KEKA's Shamanic Sculptures**

We met for the first time last autumn.

Keka came to us under the recommendation of Mr. ICHI, staunch supporter of contemporary ceramics and one of the founders of FLICAM (FuLe International Ceramic Art Museums) in Fuping, China.

We talked about many different aspects of contemporary ceramics in the world. She also told us about her Shamanic Sculptures project. Centuries ago, the shamans living among the peoples who settled in the Andes mountains under the Southern Cross had the mission of connecting nature and the human being.

Back in her workshop, as the sculptures were finished Keka kept sending me its pictures. The more I look at the photos, the more the gaze of her shamans, tender yet lucid and profound at the same time, catches me.

Using natural coloring agents and through successive firing in the wood kiln Keka has succeeded in giving birth to the divine spirit in her sculptures. They are now timeless. The sculptures impose their presence by some sort of mysterious fascination, ceramic vessels and inhabited characters at the same time. There is little doubt that “something” is going on inside her sculptures. They are “inhabited”!!

Without a doubt, Keka herself is also « inhabited » by the sculptures she creates. It seems to me that such approach goes beyond the power of the author, as if the spirit of shamans will be guiding the artist to achieve success.

March 8, 2015 in Guermantes HAGUIKO