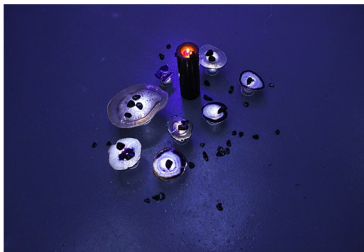




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## Julia Sinelnikova Asks Us if Fairies Are Good Or Bad

by Joy Harris



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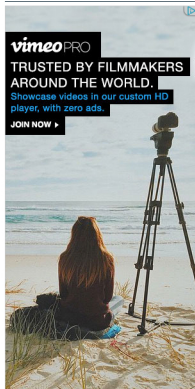


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In her exhibition "Black Fairy Egg Nest," **Julia Sinelnikova** asks us if fairies are good or bad. Experienced as a ritual site with candles and stones, "Black Fairy Egg Nest" feels like a secret den where winged creatures could emerge at any moment. The primary piece hovering overhead is a nest of hand cut resin light sculptures dripping into the exhibition space. A pregnant mass leaks thin glowing strands and dark stones dangle towards the ground below.

But while there is a medieval and religious feel to the work, Sinelnikova is more broadly concerned with the distinction between who we are and how we present ourselves to the world. Her use of a fairy as the icon of the work symbolizes the contradictions inherent in our identities. As Sinelnikova points out in her artist statement, fairies are represented as both benevolent creatures who grant wishes and tricksters who can thwart even the most noble of plans. In this way fairies seem to be like us, flying between the light and the dark.

"Black Fairy Nest Egg" is part of Sinelnikova's larger "Fairy Organs" work and includes sculpture, video and performance. "Conjuring Rebirth," performed by Sinelnikova aka The Oracle and Xenolith Yolita aka Culttastic uses the glowing, dangling sculptures as a location for mystical curiosity, acquiescence and frustration. "Meditation on Suffering" centers around a glowing square where multiple women decked in shimmering foil move in concert with whispering voices in a neon lit disco. "Sentinel Seraphim" moves the multiplied women out of the geometric world of "Meditation" and into nature where the foil then takes on the likeness of wings.

Julia Sinelnikova is an artist and curator working in New York City. She has had solo exhibitions in Brooklyn, Austin, Houston, Barcelona, and Oulu (Finland). She recently curated "LEMNIVERSE: Vector Gallery at Art Basel" at SELECT Fair, Miami Beach and "Seeking Space 2014" at the Active Space, Brooklyn.



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