

“CRYPISIS”

The bridge is not the one that leads me from one shore to the other; the bridge is the one that takes me from the finite to the infinite.

The artist's book titled Crypsis started as an idea in the city of San Francisco, CA. There the Golden Gate Bridge stands as one of the seven wonders of the modern world according to the American Society of Civil Engineers ASCE. Therefore, the influx of tourists and visitors is permanent as well as copious. However, among the numerous visitors, some arrive with a direct and specific purpose: to commit suicide. The number of people leaping off the bridge seeking for death, after impacting the seawater, has been systematic and endless since its inauguration in 1937. This hidden and little disclosed side on the history of the bridge induced me to discern the possible thoughts and motives that could incite some individuals to carry out such a decision. Consequently, I considered the event as a conjuncture fact to my interests and concerns as a visual artist, in the sense of addressing existential dichotomies as an exploratory element for an aesthetic proposal.

Initially, pretending to be in the head of a suicidal, I developed some texts in which I assumed the plane of present reality as unreality so that the transit to another one could be overturned in the real. In other words, a change to a brand-new state as a result of loosening the bonds of time, place and space, to achieve the fusion with the cosmos, the environment to which we belong and finally become part of.

For this project, I appealed to my knowledge and experienced years within the graphics. I worked on images using different print techniques such as lithography, photo-lithography and engraving, down to paper-making and design, to bring together an idea as an aesthetic whole. Emphasizing in the storyline that the bridge, in this case, the Golden Gate, does not lead from one shore to the other but serves as a platform to propel from the finite to the infinite.

I articulated the written word and the image in the form of an artist's book as an artifact means that encourages reflection and offers alternatives for contemplating life.

This artist-book has been printed and bound entirely by hand at the Taller González-Cerón in Bogotá, Colombia during the years 2016/17 and 2018.

Concept, texts, graphic work and design by Oscar Cerón.

Photographs by Alejandro González, Oscar Cerón, and stills from Eric Steel's film The Bridge.

Printed on 300 g/m2 Rives BFK paper.

The cover is on handmade paper with iron waste, covered in fabric and goes in a pine box.

There is a limited edition of 15.

<https://www.oscar-eron-print-workshop.com/procesos>

<https://issuu.com/oscarceronceron/docs/crypsis>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2CqjdiTV-g>