



2020 Altar Vison

Date

3/14/2020

Primary Maker

Arthur López

Medium

Wood, paint; Pine, rabbit hide gesso, pine sap varnish and grain alcohol, beeswax coat, jelutong, natural water-based pigments (cochineal, madder, walnut, yellow ochre, indigo, Persian blue, liquid chrome)

Description

Rectangular altar box with a rectangular backdrop with a window with red drapes looking onto a green landscape with floating images of Covid-19 virus cells. Multiple images including Santa Corona, laptop with virtual happy hour image, sink with bar of soap and bottle of Corona beer. Inspired by the pandemic, Altar Vision 2020 references home as a safe place. The kitchen sink becomes the new altar, its sanctity reinforced with hand sanitizer and soap. Saint Catherine of Siena, the patroness of health care, and San Roque, protector of victims of the plague, add further protection from the virus that is visible floating outside the kitchen window. The computer image of San Vicente de Zaragoza, patron saint of wine, signifies the new phenomenon of the virtual happy hour. The inclusion of a bottle of Corona beer plays on the misunderstood fear of the word corona which is Spanish for “crown.” A new image created by the artist is La Santa Corona. Pictured here with her coronavirus resplendor and PPE dress, she was created in honor of health care workers and their dedication to help those who have suffered or succumbed to the virus. She adorns the top of the altar, reinforcing the safety and sanctity of home but ever present in case she is needed in this time of emergency (from exhibition label text).

Dimensions

56 × 36 × 12 1/4 in. (142.2403 × 91.4402 × 31.1151 cm)