

## EXOTICA

**Western** interest in Exotica is not new. Therefore this exposition is rebellious.

For centuries the Western world has wanted to grasp the exotic and mystical world. During the conquest, colonization and **evangelization** we came to understand the exotic world as a primitive and savage territory where Native Slaves are born. Simultaneously, **forbidden** fruit and poisongreen landscapes appear in beautiful works of art.

Later we view natives as Noble Savages. The art of the **Negro** grows upon us. It is the most pure form of art of **untroubled** souls; **wild** and free. We even like Gauguin.

In the era of decolonization we **love** the culture relativistic approach. '**Bushmen**' or 'natives' are not demeaning when used in their own context. Having several wives makes economic sense among herders, not among **businessmen**. And yet...aren't all **cultures** equal? Yes? No? More confusion.

Lost, the West turns out to be a **slave** of nature herself, captured in **Oxford** dominated dogmas and rooted in Christian beliefs.

Today we try again. Unhappy with lazy acceptance that no-one can escape the Western mind, we continue the search for **Paradise**, **fusing** tribal beliefs with technology, **foreign** modernism with Western tradition.

The **art** we **create** is free from any rationalized thought. Exotic. Like natives before they became slaves. Before all of us became slaves.

Rebelliously, we have found the New World.

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