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Artist's Statement: Watchers of Our Duality - © 2019 DMC

Inspiration

'Watchers of Our Duality' was born from my belief that we all carry light and shadow within, and that unseen presences bear witness to our journeys. I have long felt that these watchers sometimes guide, sometimes warn, but often simply observe as we learn through life. While reading about ancient sites such as Göbekli Tepe, where the belief in watchful spirits was an integral part of existence, the image of my own watchers returned to me and sparked this creation.

Creation Process

The piece began as an experiment on a 20cm x 30cm hardboard with leftover encaustics. After laying the base, I added oil paint and dry pigments, then scorched the surface with a small flame to fuse the textures, creating ripples that catch the light. I polished and outlined the trees with ink, then added two silver alloy wolf heads set with glass crystals - one clear, one red - alongside a resin moon haloed in vibrant blue. Finally, I framed the work and sealed it beneath industrial two-part crystal glass resin, allowing a week for it to cure to a luminous finish.

Symbolism and Emotional Journey

The wolves embody the dual guardianship that balances distance and intimacy: the white wolf watches silently from afar, while the red wolf lingers close, offering comfort and guidance. Subtle watchers in reds and purples emerge from the shadows, inviting the viewer into their quiet world. At first, the piece draws curiosity: the shimmer of resin, the glow of the halo, the glint of crystal eyes. Then, as the eyes linger, the emotional weight gathers: a realisation of being observed, of one's inner duality mirrored back. Finally, stillness settles: a moment of introspection where the artwork

becomes a companion in reflection, offering both mystery and reassurance.

Final Presentation

A singular work of encaustic, oil, Indian ink, mica, metal, silver alloy wolf heads, and glass crystals, all preserved under industrial-grade crystal resin.

Size:

Artwork: 20cm x 30cm

Framed: 25cm x 35cm x 2cm

This is an invitation to pause, to feel the presence of the watchers, and to embrace the quiet reflection they awaken within.

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Watchers of our Duality - Journal

Inspiration

The idea came quietly, like a whisper from the past. In 2019, I was casually experimenting with a 20cm x 30cm piece of hardboard and leftover encaustics, letting wax flow across its surface. Yet in the back of my mind, memories stirred: pages from books I had devoured about ancient Neolithic sites, Göbekli Tepe among them. These stories spoke of watchers: beings who observe our lives and our dual natures, sometimes guiding, sometimes silent.

As I worked, the thought of duality became unavoidable. I have long believed that each of us carries two selves, and that somewhere, someone, or something, is watching those selves live, stumble, and grow. By the time the first layer of encaustic cooled, I felt those watchers had already arrived in the studio with me.

Creation

The painting began to take shape almost on its own. I added two trees, one on each side, using oil paint and dry pigment. Their branches stretched like sentinels guarding a mystical blue halo that demanded a moon. Then came the fire. I brought out my small flame thrower and torched the surface, watching as the heat transformed colours and textures into something otherworldly. When it cooled, I polished it and traced the branches in delicate Indian ink.

That night, I returned to my book before sleep, and the watchers followed me into my awake dreams. By morning, I knew the piece was incomplete. I embedded two silver alloy wolf heads into the surface, one with a clear crystal, one with a red gem, alongside a

resin moon. The wolves became the living embodiment of the watchers: the white wolf above, distant but protective; the red wolf below, close and comforting, always by my side.

Finally, I framed the hardboard and poured a clear layer of two-part epoxy crystal glass resin across it. The act felt ceremonial, as if I were preserving a fragment of the unseen world.

Awakening

I left the work to cure in its tent for a week, and when I finally hung it in my hallway, I felt the watchers awaken. Watchers of our Duality had become more than an artwork: it was a presence, a bridge between memory, myth, and the silent guardians who dwell in the spaces between.

Since 2019, it has accompanied me, a reminder that our lives are lived with duality and under quiet observation. For those who feel the pull of ancient stories and the comfort of unseen sentinels, this piece will speak its own truth.

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Mediums and Dimensions:

20cm x 30cm hardboard; framed 25cm x 35cm x 2cm

Encaustic, oil paint, Indian ink, mica

Solid silver wolf heads with crystals, resin moon

Sealed with industrial-grade 2-part epoxy crystal glass resin

The Watchers of Our Duality

White wolf in the dusk,
breath of silence on my neck:
shadow hums within.

I feel the first stir of awareness, a quiet thread pulling me inward,
as if the Watchers of Duality lean close, observing the stirrings of
my twin selves.

Red wolf curls nearby,
heart-flame flickers, soft and warm:
guiding without words.

Its nearness steadies my steps, and I lean into its silent counsel,
knowing the Watchers sometimes guide, sometimes remain in
shadow,
measuring the balance of who I am becoming.

Ancient stones whisper,
purple eyes in hidden veils
mark the soul's journey.

The Watchers linger here, silent in their vigil,
seeing each stumble and rise,
the dance of my two selves reflected in their unblinking gaze.

Haloed crystal gleam,
stillness gathers in the bones:
I am seen, and whole.

A final breath settles the heart,
surrendering to the watchers' embrace,
who witness all without judgement,
keepers of the dual nature we carry. *DMC©2019*



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