Ekatherina S.

# Unity: Life and Death

2011



Life and Death 1  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010

### **Unity: Life and Death**

My new photo-project is "Unity: Life and Death". It is based on the culture of the Maya civilization that inspired me during my travel to the Yucatan Peninsula.

The ideas of the Maya built upon their calendar. 9 Underworlds are represented by 9 levels of the pyramids, each made of thirteen Heavens, which in turn may be subdivided into seven Days and six Nights. The Days and Nights may be interpreted as illuminated and dark periods of development. Sacrifices and self-sacrifices were the ways to maintain the well-being of the community. The Maya's Tree of Life stood at the center of creation. It is very similar to Kabbalistic Tree of life and the Tree Yggdrasil found in Nordic Mythology. This Tree can be seen as the Cosmic Axis on the astronomical level or DNA on the biological level.

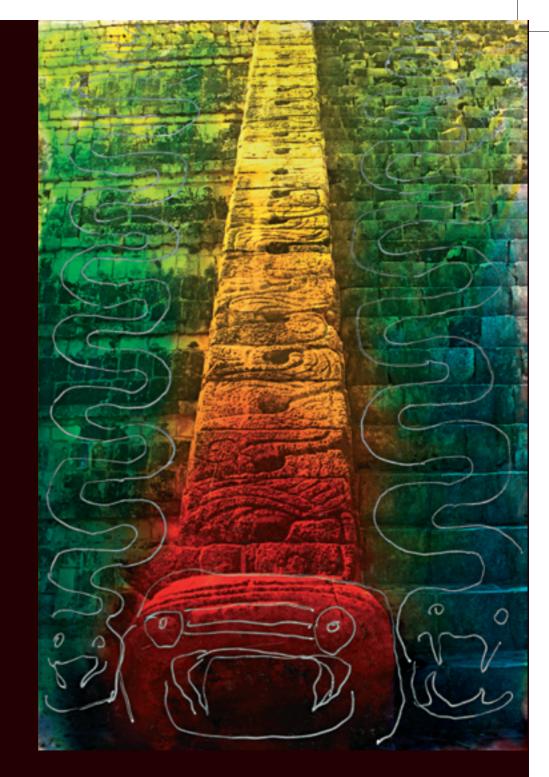
I was also impressed with the similarity between the Maya culture and the other great cultures of China, India and Egypt. The symbols are universal. A flying snake is a representation of life and creative energy. The bird is a representation of higher consciousness, and the jaguar is the expression of the Death.

The very highly developed Maya civilization collapsed before the invasion of the Europeans because of unknown internal problems. It was probably a combination of the disasters such as ecological catastrophe, climate change, wars, and the revolution against the priests who were a very educated, powerful, and wealthy ruling minority. This knowledge was lost.

Recently the meaning of Maya calendar was rediscovered. Many scientists believe that all 9 circles of the evolution of the life will be completed between 2011-2012 and a new era of development will start.

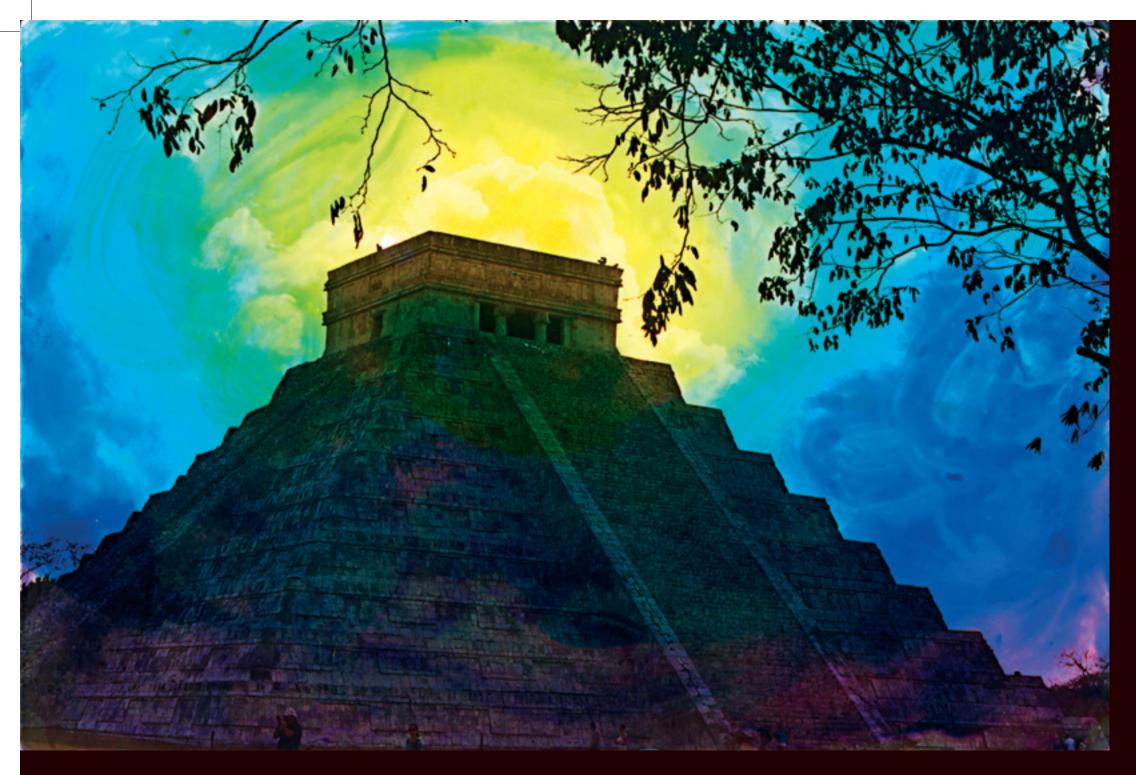
In the project "Unity: Life and Death" I speak about the future of our civilization. "What should we learn from the past?"

I believe that we are very close to creating a new stage of development of Human consciousness. This new consciousness is based on Unity, Peace and Love. We are already globally connected. The choice is up to us! Do we destroy our world with the greed, selfishness, separation and ignorance or do we sacrifice our egos for the well-being of Humanity and create a lasting Peace based on respect for all beliefs, religions, and Nations?



Life and Death 2 · painted photograph on diasec · 90 x 60 cm · 2010

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Life and Death 3  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



Life and Death 4  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



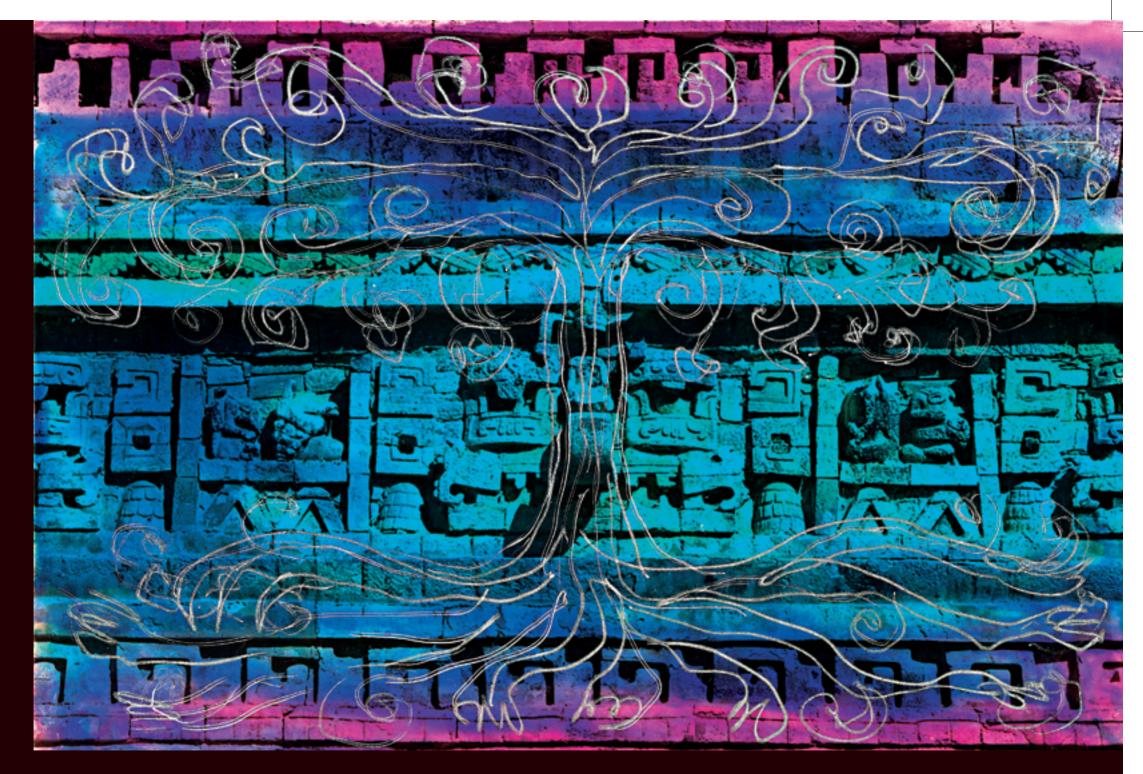
Life and Death 5  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



Life and Death 6  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



Life and Death 7  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



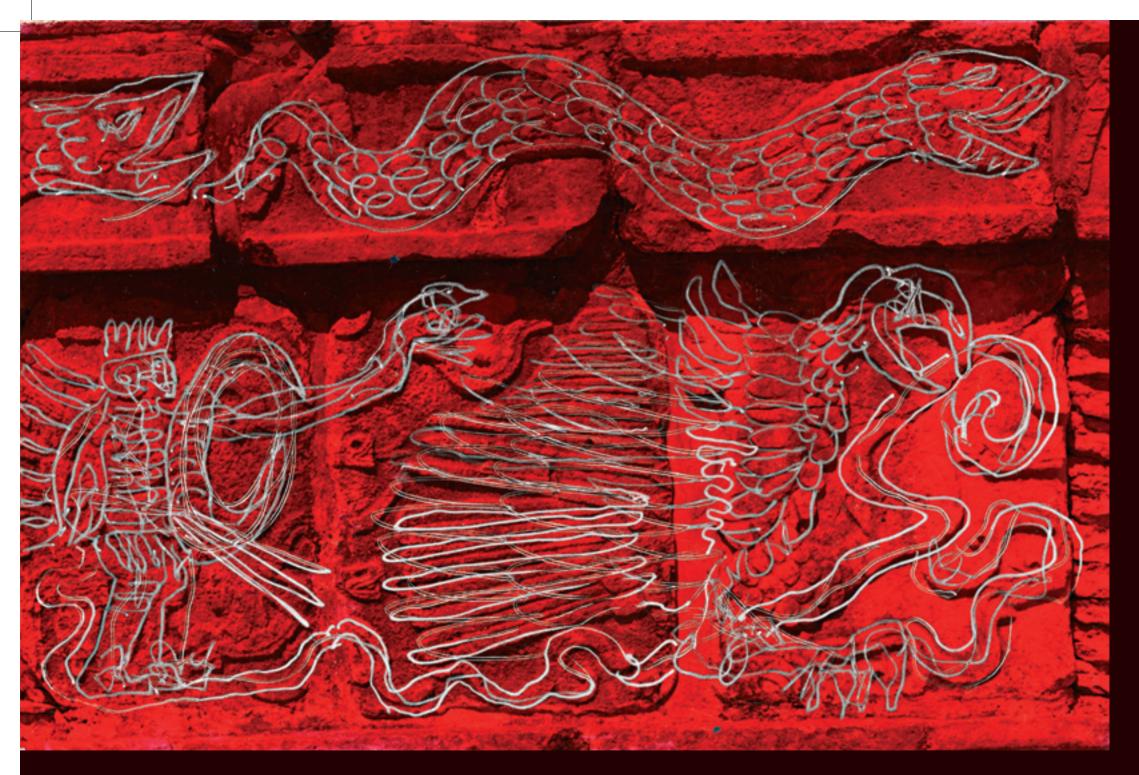
Life and Death 8  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



Life and Death 9  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



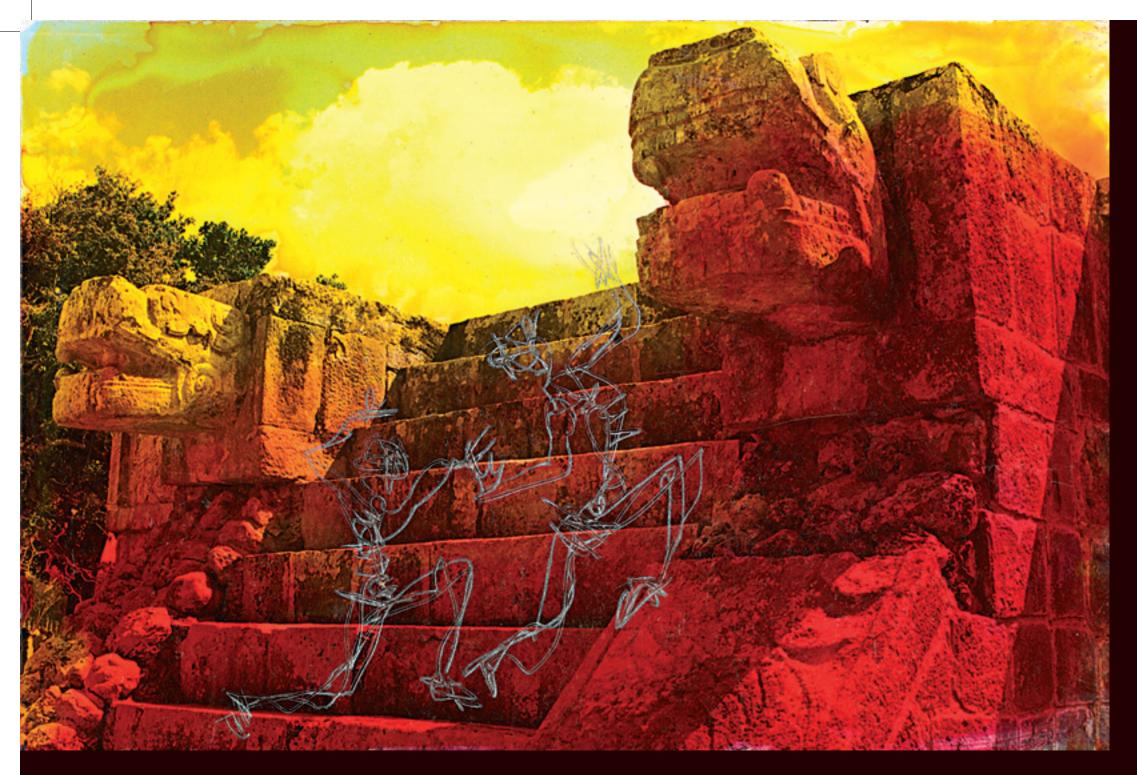
Life and Death 10  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



Life and Death 11  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010



Life and Death 12 · painted photograph on diasec · 60 x 90 cm · 2010



Life and Death 13  $\cdot$  painted photograph on diasec  $\cdot$  60 x 90 cm  $\cdot$  2010

### Ekatherina S.



Born in St. Petersburg Russia. Study of mathematic, physic and informatic in St. Petersburg (graduated) Study of fine art, painting, sculpture, photography and video in the Academy of Fine Art in St. Petersburg and Duesseldorf, Germany (master degree under Prof. A.R. Penck)

Based in New York and Duesseldorf (Germany)

## Solo exhibitions (selection)

2010 · "Unity: Jerusalem", Gallery Pingvin, Oslo (Norway) 2009 · "Unity: Jerusalem", United Nations Building, New York (USA) 2008 · "India: Sensuality and spirituality", Museum Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi (India) "Unity" State exhibition hall A3, Moscow (Russia) 2007 · "Unity" Museum Viehmarktthermen, Treves (Germany) "Unity: identity", Contemporary Art Museum B.S.1, Beijing (China) 2006 · "Unity", Artforum E&Y GAP 15, Duesseldorf (Germany) "Passport with Reng Rong and Huang Yan in Imperial City Art Museum, Beijing (China) "Unity: divine geometry" Niavaran Museum, Tehran (Iran) 2005 · "Unity", United Nations building , New York (USA) "Phoenix" for Michael Gorbatschow - Foundation, Bonn (Germany) "Unity" Museum PAN, Kunstforum Niederhein (Germany) 2004 · "Unity" State Russian Museum, St.Petersburg (Russia) "Unity", State Museum of Montenegro (Serbia-Montenegro) 2003 · GTZ building with Olafur Eliason, Berlin (Germany) 2001 · Tra sogno a realta" Forum Artis Museum (Italy) 1999 · "Fire", State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg (Russia) 1998 · "Fire", Museum of Contemporary Art Washington D.C. (USA) 1997 · Museum Tonhalle, Duesseldorf (Germany) 1994 · Pusckin museum, St.Petersburg (Russia) 1992 · Museum of the Russian History, St. Petersburg (Russia)

# Group exhibition (selection)

2010 · State Russian Museum St. Petersburg (Russia) Vinzavod, Contemporary Art Center, Moscow (Russia) Carrousel du Louvre (France) 2009 · "Photo- Biennale", State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg (Russia) 2008 · "Power of Water", State Russian Museum from the permanent collection, St.Petersburg, (Russia) 2007 · "Agua", from the permanent collection of the State Russian Museum, Evian hall (France) 2005 · Museo Laboratorio Castello Colonna Genazzo. Rome (Italy) Plakas Art Center, Athenes (Greece) 2004 · Pallazio dell'Arsenalle, Verona (Italy) Museum PAN, Kunstforum Niederrhein, (Germany) 2003 · Museum Schloss Rheydt (Germany) 2002 · International Biennale Liverpool (UK) 2000 · Museum of Art, Orlando (Florida) 1999 · Museum in Motion, d'Ars, Milano (Italy) 1998 · International Sculpture Triennale Osaka (Japan) 1997 · Museum of Modern Art . Odessa (Ukraina) Museum Karavanserei, Tiflis (Georgia) 1996 · Landesmuseum Duesseldorf (Germany) 1990 · Museum of Modern Art Riga (Lettland) Museum of Modern Art Tallin (Estland)

