

# Elena Kervinen

## *Immortal*



*Immortal*, 2021, triptych, oil on granite, 12,5 x 23,5 x 2 cm (4.92 x 9.25 x 0.79 in)

November 16, 2021 – February 12, 2022

One day, while she was looking for new material for her works, Elena Kervinen discovered a granite fragment that powerfully attracted her attention above all the others. The letter **N** was engraved on it. She immediately identified herself with that letter, because there are three in her name, and she couldn't help thinking that that fragment was part of a tombstone, perhaps hers in a remote past, an unmistakable sign of possible immortality, of a life before and after life, of a discontinuously eternal continuity. That fragment is part of the work *Immortal*, which gives the title to the exhibition. Immortality is an old wish of humanity. Eternal life has been the promise of many religions and a theme present in philosophy, from Plato to Saint Thomas Aquinas. This idea, associated with the concept of infinity, beats in all of her recent works and that we are now exhibiting in el quadern robot gallery. But not only this. The greatness of infinity cannot be understood without the everyday life, without the small details and simple things that surround us, and that she observes in detail. And while she expresses the more philosophical or spiritual approaches with granite, she captures the experiences of the everyday life on marble, transforming them into delicate drawings. Elena Kervinen's recent work moves from the earthly to the cosmic or spiritual, through a personal path of introspection and study.



*Cosmosoc*, 2021, oil on granite,  
53 x 43 x 3 cm (20.87 x 16.93 x 1.18 in)

Elena Kervinen started working with marble fragments in 2018. The idea of the fragment is suggestive because it sparks our imagination. A fragment draws attention in itself, but it also inevitably evokes what is missing. In her words: *If we observe a single fragment, it transmits one thing and if we analyze the whole, it expresses another one. I often combine multiple ideas in a*



*Cor*, 2020, oil on granite, 17 x 12,5 x 3 cm  
(6.69 x 4.92 x 1.18 in)

*single work. I have worked on the theme of the fragment in various ways. In some cases as if they were remains of something, erased by the passage of time and in others they could be unfinished works. Formally, the fragments are fascinating. The broken stone expresses both fragility and strength. The fragment fascinates me poetically, because it is difficult for me to say where the concept and the form end and where the poetry begins. The form itself is poetic, and so is the idea. Also the associations that awaken the combination of the fragments. In essence the fragment is mysterious, nostalgic and has a melancholic beauty in its imperfection.*

The exhibition *Immortal* brings together a part of Elena Kervinen's works from the last five years and expresses, as she has explained to us, everything that she has lived and what she has intuited, everything that is rational, but also her dreams.

Elena Kervinen was born in Finland, but she has lived in Catalonia for almost thirty years, where she did art studies. She has participated in group exhibitions at La Capella and at Espai 13 of the Fundació Miró. She had her first solo exhibition in 2000 at the María José Castellví gallery, and since then she has had solo exhibitions at the Bronda gallery and at the Pori Art Museum in Finland, at the Axis Art Gallery in Canada, and at the Temple Romà in Vic among others. Her work has been selected in Artfairs such as Art London Contemporary, ForoSur 2010 and Art Insbruck among others. Since 2016 she has been presenting her work at el quadern robot gallery.

The exhibition will be open until February 12, 2022

For more information, contact the gallery: [info@elquadernrobot.com](mailto:info@elquadernrobot.com) – 93 368 36 72

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