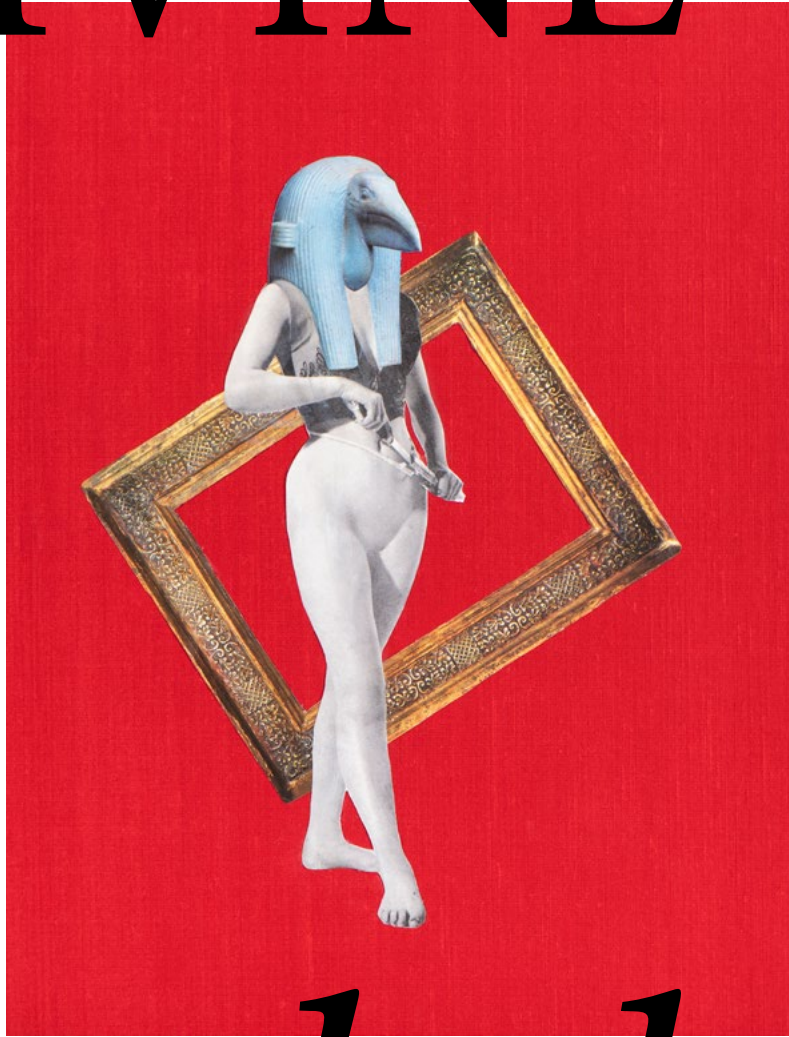


DIVINE

CATALOG



rebel

2021 COLLAGE EXHIBIT
BY ASHLEY EDES



EXHIBITION STATEMENT

According to feminist author, Theologian and historian Carol Christ, “If images are permitted, there is no way to stop the human mind and the human hand from creating images of female power. Having a multitude of divine depictions reflects the diversity of nature, while reminding us of the limitations of a single image.

DIVINE rebel is a collage series by Ashley Edes, a testament that the Goddess is alive; residing within each of us as infinite creative potential.

ARTIST BIO

Ashley Edes is a visual artist and creative producer who amplifies mythology restoring the beauty, strength and potential of the feminine. Edes’ feminist surrealist collages are rebellious mashup depictions of the divine; exploring eroticism, spirituality and culture.

Based between Maine and California, Edes is currently developing a docuseries on the source, suppression and resurrection of female power.

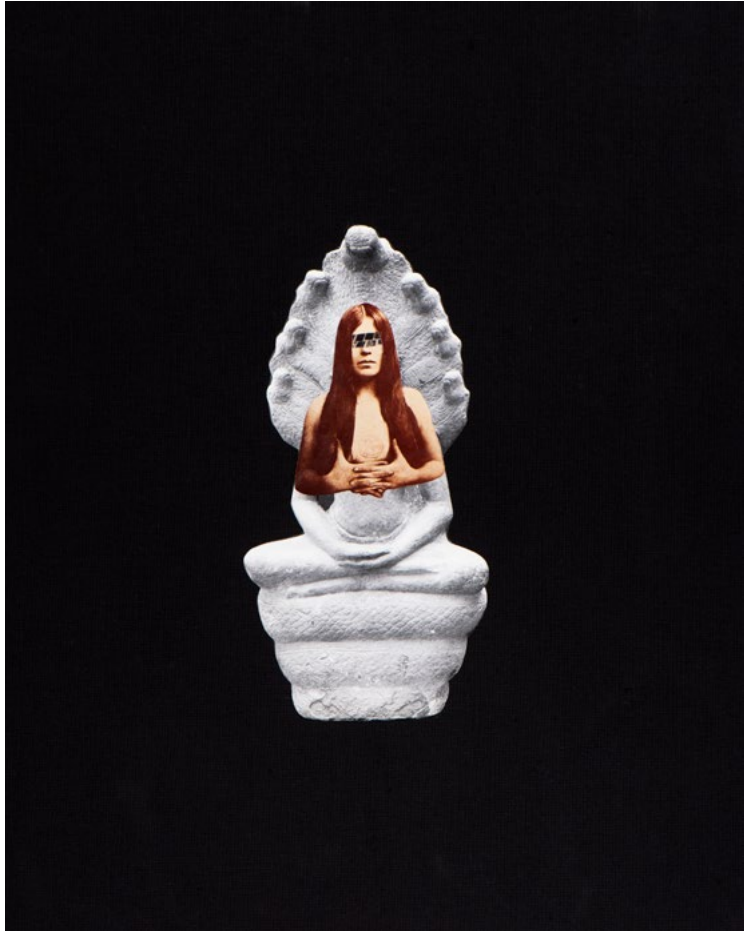


Yeshe is a Tibetan term meaning wisdom, and refers to *Yeshe Tsogyal* (757–817), a semi-mythical female deity in Tibetan Buddhism. Among Tibetans, she is recognized as a fully enlightened Buddha, a role model to affirm women’s potential for enlightenment.

Yeshe, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 16 x 20 inches

Every woman has divine power in her own being, waiting to be recognized. According to Kundalini yoga, women are the embodiment of creative power, worshiped for centuries as various forms of goddesses. In Tantra, fire represents Kundalini energy, a coiled, snake-like force that when awakened leads spiritual liberation – of *realizing the whole universe as the Self*.



Fire of Time, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 16 x 20 inches



Cliodna is the Celtic goddess of the sea, love, and beauty. The goddesses of Celtic mythology were connected to the land, the waters, and sovereignty; ancestors caring for the earth as well as teachers and protectors. As myths were passed down orally, many goddesses are only known by their names.

Cliodna, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 16 x 20 inches





The Khmer people of Cambodia mythic origins are through the union of *Mera*, the queen of the apsaras, and a sage prince. Apsaras are celestial dancing beings who sprung to life from the cosmic ocean. A symbol of rebirth, they are the triumph of the creative force of convergences. The ancient art of dance developed as a prayer for rain and fertility, dancers as living bridges channeling divine order.

Mera, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 16 x 20 inches



Aberewaa is the Earth goddess of the Bono people, a matrilineal people of Ghana. Through her in ritual, by libation or dance, the Bono people connect with their ancestors. Known as the upholder of truth, she is personalized as Mother Earth as we humans depend on her for nurturance and sustenance. There are no known temples dedicated to her, instead she is worshiped out in the farm fields.

Aberewaa, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 16 x 20 inches



For millennia, humans have carried shells over vast landscapes with the belief that these chambers made from seawater can help us find our way home. As one of the oldest surviving ocean creatures, the *nautilus* mirrors the resilience, expansion and renewal of the feminine, residing within each of us as infinite creative potential.



Aikyaa is a Sanskrit word for unity, the feeling of Oneness. Sanskrit, one of the oldest languages of the world, is considered the mother of all languages, and is used in the historical texts of Buddhism. Oral transmission was highly valued in ancient India, and its sages refined the alphabet, structure and grammar into a “kind of sublime musical mold,” as sounds were another representation of the world itself.

Aikyaa, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 16 x 20 inches



Nautilus, 2021

Analog Collage on Mat Board, 16 x 20 inches

In ancient Greek mythology, the *Moirai* were the three goddesses of fate. As personifications of destiny, their role was to ensure every being lived out their fate in accordance to laws of nature – our delicate interdependence with all life. She is the creative force, and the net wrapped around her body symbolizes human potential and the unfolding of individual lives and the universe as a whole.



Moirai, 2021

Archival Print, 16 x 20 inches



Chrysalis refers to a gold sheath, a shell in which a being is developing. On the heroine's journey a woman goes within, learning how to value herself and trust her intuition. On this spiritual quest she integrates all aspects of her identity, reclaiming the beauty and power of the feminine while becoming aware of her masculine nature that brings her visions to reality and helps her own her sovereignty.

Chrysalis, 2021

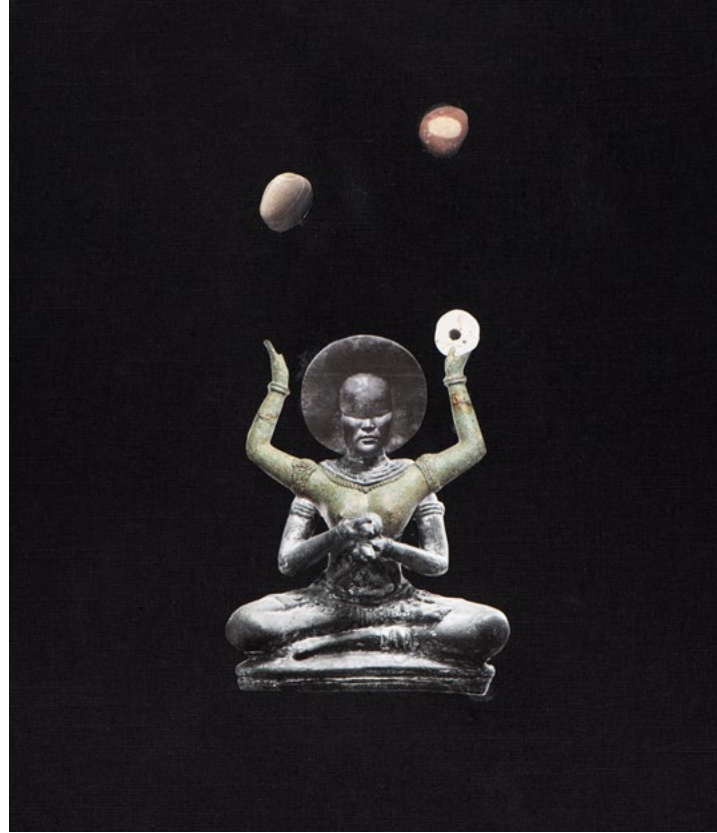
Archival Print, 16 x 20 inches



Kumbhaka stems from the Sanskrit word *kumbha*, a pot; comparing the torso to a vessel full of air. As a sutra, it is an invitation to experience breath as an elixir, our body as a chalice for ritual offerings to the divine. The term also refers to the zodiac sign Aquarius, or our current “Age of Air” which is associated with hope, collective responsibility, and discovering what it means to be human.

Kumbhaka, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 11 x 14 inches



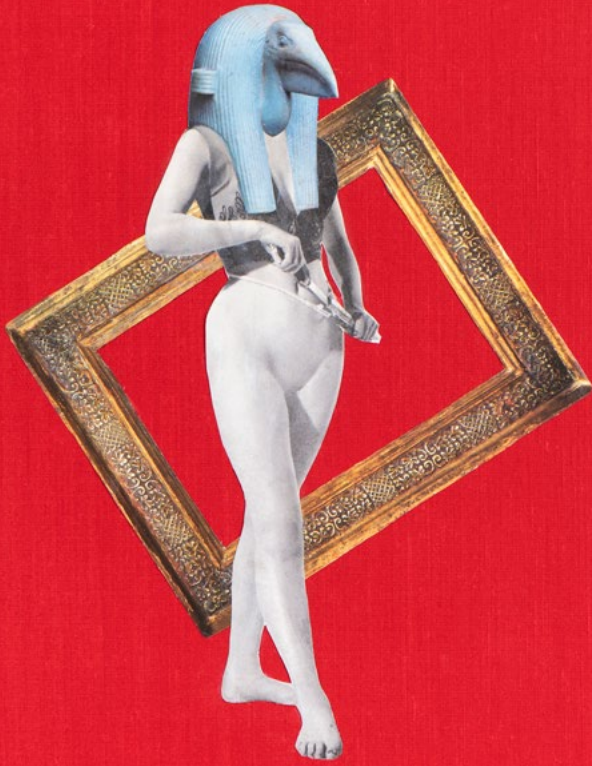
Hikule'o is a Polynesian goddess, the keeper of knowledge who guards the entrance to the watery, dark realm of the ancestors. In Tongan mythology, *Hikule'o* created nearby islands by throwing stones from the sky. Only six figurines survive today; relics were destroyed and *Hikule'o* worship was outlawed with colonization. Her spirit lives on in *Hiko*, a juggling game played by girls of Tonga.

Hikule'o, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 11 x 14 inches



With so little literature on this female deity, the origins of the elephant-headed Hindu goddess *Vinayaki*, also known as *Ganeshini*, remain a mystery. Like her consort Ganesha, she is seen as a remover of obstacles – serving as a reminder to boldly create our dreams with the powers within us.



Lilith refers to the wild, untamable parts of the feminine psyche that have been shamed and suppressed. As one of the oldest mythic females, she has been used to demonize women's desire for sovereignty and independence. Asserting that she had been created equal and refusing to be subservient to Adam, one might say she became the first feminist.

Lilith, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 11 x 14 inches



Vinayaki, 2021

Analog Collage on Linen, 11 x 14 inches

