



# LILIBETH CUENCA RASMUSSEN

b. 1970 in Manila, Philippines  
Lives and works in Copenhagen, Denmark

## **Gaia #2, The Philippines - A Mother Earth Ritual, 2013**

Performance Installation, volcanic rock, sand, 3-piece ritual family clothing, coconut shells, pig's blood.

Lilibeth Cuenca Rasmussen's performance and installation piece *Gaia #2* is a continuation from a project that started in Denmark, that relates to familial and biological bonds integrated in her identity as Danish Filipina. Born in Manila and raised in Stevns Denmark, Rasmussen explores the idea of detachment from the two places, a process she intends to go through in order to find a "third place". For her performance in Denmark, Rasmussen created a "nullification ritual" with her father and daughter. She will do the same in Manila, with her mother and daughter. She engages in a so-called "self-healing ritual nullification" in order to ground herself to her place of nationality and place of birth, either to detach herself from it, or to completely re-unite with it, therefore finding a third place. This piece is a performance, a ritual, a sculpture, consisting of volcanic rocks from Mt. Pinatubo.

*"I was very much inspired by working in Manila in terms of researching on the different materials. Going to Pampanga to get the volcanic rocks. Heading to Quiapo to look for symbols, alternative thinking and healers. Walking around in the 'palengke' (wet market) and finding odd stuff I needed. Compared to Copenhagen (where I come from), Manila is a city with textures. You can find material, touch them and then decide to get them."*