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Contemporary photography  
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Elsa Leydier  
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Elsa Leydier (1988, France) lives in Brazil, where she settled in 2015 after graduating from the ENSP d'Arles. The artist diverts the political load from iconic images and campaigns for ecofeminism through art. In *Braços Verdes e Olhos Cheios de Asas*, she reinterprets fantasies about the Amazon through the manipulation of colors. The artist uses the same process in *Plátanos con platino*, a work done in Chocó, an extremely poor region of Colombia. "I wanted to show through these bright colors the region of Chocó, often depicted in a negative way, in a deliberately cheerful and tangy light", she explains. "I have also shown to what extent one can instrumentalize and manipulate the discourses that one creates on the territories." "Latin America is a continent which is made up of different strata - historical, cultural, social - which have turned into crossbreeding and syncretism. I am fascinated by multiple, unlabeled identities, since there is no such thing as purity of identity. "She went to live in Brazil after obtaining her diploma in 2012 from the National School of photography of Arles. It was at this moment that it clicked: "I became aware of the power of images when it comes to creating imaginaries on territories. But also of their inability to translate the real. "Marked by this gap between the fantasies around Brazil and the reality of everyday

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syncretism. I am fascinated by multiple, unlabeled identities, since there is no such thing as purity of identity. "She went to live in Brazil after obtaining her diploma in 2012 from the National School of photography of Arles. It was at this moment that it clicked: "I became aware of the power of images when it comes to creating imaginaries on territories. But also of their inability to translate the real. "Marked by this gap between the fantasies around Brazil and the reality of everyday life, Elsa wanted to reconstruct her own imagination on the countries of Latin America, following her own experience." I wanted to show and assume that I had built from scratch es a speech on this territory ", she declares. By creating images in acidic, superficial and manipulated colors, the artist asks the question of the role of the image in the construction of the imagination of a territory. The tropical nature she depicts turns the traditional gaze upside down and lets the imagination soar. Elsa Leydier produces pop and shiny images, bringing to its surface the richness of the landscapes while denouncing the political reality behind them.