

ANAT EBGI

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**Faith Wilding, “In the Beginning, Everything Was Green: Embodiment, Ritual, and Cyberfeminism
August 10, 2019**

In this rumination, inspired by Donna Huanca’s exhibition at the Marciano Art Foundation, Faith Wilding spins a thought-web that connects nodes of feminist and cyberfeminist thinking and making and links Huanca, Donna Haraway, Hildegard von Bingen, and Wilding herself in a process of making with. According to Haraway, the process of sympoiesis—literally worlding with or making-with—lies at the heart of world-building. This concept conjoins complex and dynamic situated systems such as sound, light, oxygen, electricity, magnetic fields, and chlorophyll to make life-worlds. Huanca’s art synthesizes a world from matter, color, live bodies, rocks, sound, advanced technology, and light. Her “performative” installations are haunted as much by the jungles, rivers, colors, language, stories, and rocks of her Bolivian roots as by her contemporary connection to and use of intelligent technologies and machine-life.

ABOUT FAITH WILDING—

Faith Wilding emigrated to the United States in 1961 from Paraguay. She received her MFA at CalArts where she was a founding member of the Feminist Art Program. Wilding is a multi-disciplinary artist whose work addresses aspects of the somatic, psychic, and sociopolitical history of the body. Recent publications, lectures, exhibitions and performances focus on issues of cyberfeminist (women and technology) theory and practice, with particular emphasis on biotechnology. Wilding has exhibited and lectured widely in the USA and Europe. Her audio work has been commissioned and broadcast by RIAS Berlin; WDR Cologne; and National Public Radio, USA. Wilding has published in MEANING, Heresies, Ms. Magazine, The Power of Feminist Art, and other books and magazines. Fearful Symmetries, a monograph on Wilding’s work, was published in 2018. She is the recipient of a Guggenheim grant and two individual media grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. Wilding is an emerita faculty member at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and currently teaches in the MFA in Visual Art Program at Vermont College of Fine Arts.