

Iain Ball (1985, UK)

*(Rare Earth Sculptures) Terbium, 2015*

Råt kystmudder, printet plastic, Red Lizard Mustika Pearl – type C1 [IND33], fræset aluminium, rustfrit stål, Vibe-Tribe troll 2.0 10W Bluetooth, vibrerende resonans højttalere, GOCH – Terbium Energy Catalyst (QNSOO1) Quantum Natives / Energy Pangea, Terbium Dark Psy Energy Pack, aluminium, vand, rødt H2O

Iain Ball er en britisk kunstner bosat i London. Når han udtænker sine værker, forestiller han sig ofte *“et gammelt artefakt i en sær post-human fremtid.”* Ball er rundet af internetkultur, der forstærker en fornemmelse for altings forbundethed på tværs af tid og rum. Hans sammensætning af materialer, som han henter i vidt forskellige verdner fra forbrugerkultur til gamle civilisationer, minder om New Age kulturer og konspirationsteorier, som han studerer og inddrager.

Ball er bl.a. optaget af, hvorledes grundstoffer, der bearbejdes af langsomme geologiske processer, benyttes inden for teknologisk innovation, som accelererer samtiden og peger mod en anden fremtid. Siden 2011 har han arbejdet på en serie skulpturer, der hver især associativt behandler en af de 17 såkaldte sjældne jordarter. Disse magnetiske og fluorescerende metaller bruges i megen ny teknologi som fx den lille højttaler i den stjerneformede figur oven på skulpturen. Denne sjældne jordart, kaldet terbium, kan transportere lyd fra en højttaler til en overflade, så musikken gennemtrænger skulpturen. Effekten beriger skulpturen med et strejf af tekno-animisme, d.v.s. en fornemmelse af teknologi som beåndet.

Musikken er såkaldt psytrance lavet af musikeren Goch, med hvem Ball deler en interesse for *aliens*. Rygsækken, der tjener som væskebeholder, er en udbredt rekvisit til techno raves.

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Raw bay mud, printed plastic, Red Lizard Mustika Pearl – type C1 [IND33], CNC milled aluminum, stainless steel, Vibe-Tribe troll 2.0 10W Bluetooth Vibration resonance speaker, GOCH – Terbium Energy Catalyst (QNSOO1) Quantum Natives / Energy Pangea, Terbium Dark Psy Energy Pack, aluminum, water

Iain Ball is a British artist who lives and works in London. When developing his works he often envisions *“an old artefact in a strange, post-human future”*. Ball has been partially shaped by an Internet culture that accentuates an overall sense of the interconnectedness of all things across time and space. He juxtaposes materials from widely different realms, ranging from consumer culture to ancient civilisations, often in ways that are reminiscent of those New Age cultures and conspiracy theories that he also studies and incorporates.

Ball is interested in how various elements shaped by slow geological processes are also used within technological innovation that accelerates our time and points towards a different future. Since 2011 he has worked on a series of sculptures in which each sculpture addresses one of the seventeen so-called rare-earth elements. These magnetic and fluorescent metals are used in much modern technology, for example in the small loudspeaker inside the star-shaped figure on top of the sculpture. The rare-earth metal known as terbium can transport sound from a loudspeaker to a given surface, allowing music to permeate the sculpture. The effect adds a tinge of techno-animism to the sculpture.

The music is so-called psytrance created by the musician Goch, who shares Ball’s interest in aliens. The backpack used to hold liquids is a frequently seen prop at techno raves.