

The Book of Gates

Cheryl Sourkes – Clip 9

The Book of Gates is the first coloured collage work that I did and what I did was I composited the negative and positive pieces onto a 4x5 negative and then I hand coloured the negative so they exist in some realm between photo and dream and painting perhaps and that body of work was based on the Book of Gates which is also known as the Egyptian Book of the Dead and in the Egyptian Book of the Dead there's twelve hours of darkness and the psyche makes descent into the darkness at each hour, at the gate of each hour you meet the guardian of the gate and in order to pass on to the next hour you have to recognize the guardian of the gate and name it and so that's a kind of journey of coming into awareness or coming into consciousness.