The Electrics by Gloria F. Orenstein

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The oak trees that appear in Vallejo's *Electrics* have large canopies that are in contact with the sky. We do not, however, see the leaves in the canopies. What we do see in *Electric Oak: Arco Iris* (2009) and *Electric Oak: Rooted to the Earth* (2009) is a multicolored lightshow. Other *Electrics* feature a single hue of light that some have called an aura. These trees are both real and spiritual. The *chi* that radiates out from their canopy, illuminated by pink, orange, yellow, fuschia, blue, purple, tan, green, blue, and white vibratory energies, is the healing force of the universe. In *Sacred Oak: A Prayer for a World at War* (2002), the tree seems to have levitated, roots and all, and its canopy is up in the sky with the sun.

As we can see in Vallejo's *Electrics*, the oak appears in all seasons and at many moments of cosmic alignment (see *Electric Oak: Spring Equinox*, 2008, and *Electric Oak: Fall Equinox*, 2008) and at midnight, dusk, and dawn. The oak appears with the moon and with the sun and represents the cycles of life, rebirth, and regeneration. Its fruit, the acorn, is a gift from the Goddess of Creation that represents fertility, sustenance, and the cycles of regeneration.

In Vallejo's *Electrics*, the variegated rays of light in the different canopies create the background lighting of the tree as they suffuse the atmosphere with their energy fields. The pink auras of many of the trees, for example, symbolize the power of Love. The color symbolism conveys a teaching for each color of the spectrum. These trees also appear to be pure visions or hallucinations.

However, the radiant aura of each archetypal/spiritual tree is merged with the imprint of the *real* California Oak and thus the *Electrics* represent the interconnected balance of both earthly and supernal powers. As the Sacred Tree transmits its essence of rainbow light to trees on earth, their auras are diffused to all living things, and serve to unify the entire human community with nature and the spiritual realms.

Linda Vallejo's ecofeminist, shamanic teaching is thus symbolized by rainbow enlightenment, a visionary lightshow that represents the many blessings of the archetypal and eternal Sacred Tree. This is what lends to her *Electrics* the charismatic resonance of an iconic image. The pure communicability and compelling beauty of the *Electrics* have the power to create a unity among all life forms embraced by the powers of Mother Earth and the Sacred Tree intertwined.