



Berlin, 27 September 2023

Hamburger Bahnhof – Nationalgalerie der Gegenwart
Annual Program 2024

BIOGRAPHIES

Solo Exhibitions

Cuban performance artist and activist **Tania Bruguera's** (b. 1968 in Havana, Cuba. Lives and works in New York and Havana) work often considers totalitarianism, immigration, and human rights. She founded (2015) the Institute of Artivism/Instituto de Artivismo Hannah Arendt (INSTAR) in order to "foster civic literacy and policy change." Despite having been arrested, detained, incarcerated, and interrogated countless times due to the radical and defiant nature of her work, Cuban artist Tania Bruguera continues to create challenging performative works, as well as arts education and community outreach programs. Bruguera has had solo exhibitions in numerous institutions across the globe. She has participated in numerous international exhibitions such as documenta and the Venice Biennale. Her work is in the permanent collections of many institutions, including the Museum of Modern Art, Tate, the Bronx Museum of the Arts and the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de La Habana.

The work of **Naama Tsabar** (b. 1982, Israel. Lives and works in New York) overcomes the boundaries of sculpture, music, performance and architecture. It reveals hidden spaces and systems in her interactive works, re-defining gendered narratives and shifting the viewing experience to a moment of active participation. Her sculptures and installations can be played upon by the audience or in collaborative performances. In the transformational process between sculpture and instrument, between form and sound, the intimate, sensual, corporeal potential of her works becomes tangible. By collaborating with local groups of performers defined as female or non-binary, Tsabar is writing a new feminist and queer history of fluency. Tsabar has had solo exhibitions in various institutions around the world. Her work is held in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum New York, Pompidou Centre and Kadist Collection Paris, and the Tel Aviv Museum among many others.

Alexandra Pirici (b. 1982, Bucharest, Romania. Lives and works between Bucharest and Munich) is an artist with a background in dance and choreography who works undisciplined, across different mediums. Her performative work the political potential of aesthetics by connecting movement — specifically, the body and its energy — to a re-reading of historical and art historical narratives. She produces enactments, or living sculptures, with performers referencing existing sculptures or monuments in specific contexts. Central to her practice is the questioning of a performance's function within today's event economy. Her work has been exhibited within the decennial art exhibition Skulptur Projekte Münster 2017, the Venice Biennale - Romanian Pavilion at the 55th edition, Tate Modern London, New Museum New York, Art Basel Messeplatz, The 9th Berlin Biennale, Manifesta 10, Centre Pompidou Paris, Museum Ludwig Cologne, the Van Abbemuseum Eindhoven, Russian Museum St. Peters-

GENERALDIREKTION
PRESS – COMMUNICATION – SPONSORS

Stauffenbergstraße 41
10785 Berlin

MECHTILD KRONENBERG
HEAD OF DIVISION

FIONA GEUSS
PRESS OFFICER NATIONALGALERIE

Tel: +49 30 3978 34-16
Mobile: +49 151 527 51 565

presse@smb.spk-berlin.de
www.smb.museum/presse



burg, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, HAU Theatre Berlin, Museum of Modern Art Warsaw, among many others.

Marianna Simnett (b. 1986. Lives and works in Berlin) is a multidisciplinary visual who uses vivid and visceral means to explore the body as a site of transformation. In psychologically charged works that challenge both herself and the viewer, Simnett imagines radical new worlds filled with untamed thoughts, strange tales and desires. Her self-reflexive practice is infused with provocation and dark humor. Working across myriad mediums, Simnett creates films, drawings, and performances that draw on fantasy to probe modern-day mythology and the ubiquity of violence. Her work has been exhibited internationally in solo exhibitions at venues including City Gallery Wellington, IMA, Institute of Modern Art Brisbane, Frans Hals Museum Haarlem, Kunsthalle Zürich, MMK, Museum für Moderne Kunst Frankfurt, The New Museum New York, and Zabłudowicz Collection London. Selected recent group exhibitions include the 59th Venice Biennale: *The Milk of Dreams 2022*, *Espressioni: The Epilogue*, Castello di Rivoli, Turin, 2022, and *A Fire in my Belly*, Julia Stoschek Collection Berlin 2021.

Mark Bradford (b. 1961 in Los Angeles, US. Lives and works in Los Angeles) is a contemporary artist best known for his large-scale abstract paintings created out of paper. Characterized by its layered formal, material, and conceptual complexity, Bradford's work explores social and political structures that objectify marginalized communities and the bodies of vulnerable populations. Just as essential to Bradford's work is a social engagement practice through which he reframes objectifying societal structures by bringing contemporary art and ideas into communities with limited access to museums and cultural institutions. Bradford has had solo exhibitions and participated in groups shows in museums across the globe. His works are held in the collections Hirschhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C., The Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Tate Gallery in London, and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, among others.

Using materials from the modern built environment plaster, timber, plywood, wallpaper, chipboard, and aluminium, **Andrea Pichl** (b. 1964 in Haldensleben, Germany/then former GDR. Lives and works in Berlin) creates impressive installations and constructions that bring to the fore architectural details and peculiarities that are often overlooked. Drawing on specific architectural elements, Pichl reduces these in scale and reconstructs or reimagines them into something else. By doing so, Pichl examines the gap between the imagined future and the reality that occurred, revealing a correspondence, a synthesis between people and place where all time merges in the contours of design and material. Pichl has exhibited internationally in solo and group exhibitions including Espace Beaumont Luxembourg, the Irish Museum of Modern Art Dublin, National Gallery Tashkent, the Contemporary Art Center Vilnius, Kunstverein Wolfsburg, and the Kumu Kunstimuseum, Tallinn.

Semiha Berksoy (1910 – 2004 - Istanbul, Turkey) was a pioneering Turkish opera singer, actress, and painter whose multifaceted talents left an indelible mark on the cultural landscape of Turkey. She displayed artistic aptitude from an early age, receiving training in opera and painting. Berksoy moved to Berlin in the 1930s to pursue her education and career in

GENERALDIREKTION
PRESS – COMMUNICATION – SPONSORS

Stauffenbergstraße 41
10785 Berlin

MECHTILD KRONENBERG
HEAD OF DIVISION

FIONA GEUSS
PRESS OFFICER NATIONALGALERIE

Tel: +49 30 3978 34-16
Mobile: +49 151 527 51 565

presse@smb.spk-berlin.de
www.smb.museum/presse

Taking photographs is solely permitted for the current press coverage of the exhibition/event. For any further use of photos you are required to clarify issues of copyright and usage rights independently in advance. You are responsible for obtaining further rights (e.g. copyrights for works of art portrayed, personal rights etc.).



the arts. This marked the beginning of her international career in opera, However, Berksoy was forced to leave Berlin in the late 1930s due to the political and social opposition caused by the rise of the Nazi Party to power. As a person of Turkish nationality, Berksoy faced increasing difficulties to find work, as a result of the deteriorating political situation in Europe. Berksoy's operatic career blossomed internationally during the mid-20th century. She graced prestigious stages such as La Scala in Milan and the Paris Opera, earning acclaim for her powerful mezzo-soprano voice and remarkable stage presence. Apart from her operatic pursuits, Berksoy was a renowned painter, with her works often characterized by vibrant colors and abstract forms. Her artistry extended beyond the stage and canvas to the silver screen, where she appeared in several Turkish films. Throughout her life, Berksoy remained a cultural icon in Turkey, known for her dedication to the arts and her groundbreaking contributions to opera, acting, and visual art. Her work has been exhibited in the 5th Istanbul Biennale 2009, the 51st Venice Biennale 2005, and The Louvre's *Moon* exhibition at the Grand Palais in 2019.

GENERALDIREKTION
PRESS – COMMUNICATION – SPONSORS

Stauffenbergstraße 41
10785 Berlin

MECHTILD KRONENBERG
HEAD OF DIVISION

FIONA GEUSS
PRESS OFFICER NATIONALGALERIE

Tel: +49 30 3978 34-16
Mobile: +49 151 527 51 565

presse@smb.spk-berlin.de
www.smb.museum/presse

Preis der Nationalgalerie

Pan Daijing (b. 1991, Guiyang, China. Lives and works in Berlin) works with sound, performance, installation, choreography and film. Her practice is situated at the intersection of visual art and music. Influenced by improvisation and narrative elements, her works often have a performative starting point, though they move far beyond this in terms of their impact. They evince the artist's intensely psychological sense of space.

Daniel Lie's (b. 1988 in Sao Paolo. Lives and works in Berlin) art explores questions about ecology and non-human life forms. Lie's multi-sensory, evocative sculptural installations create atmospheres that are found nowhere else. The ephemeral materials used in the works of the trans/non-binary artist progressively alter the space, time and dynamics of any exhibition.

Hanne Lippard (b. 1984, Milton Keynes, UK. Lives and works in Berlin) uses her voice as her primary artistic medium. Her sound sculptures surround visitors, creating minimalist but immersive encounters. However, the calm impression her work gives does not belie the underlying voice that resolutely addresses political concerns.

Filmmaker **James Richards** (b. 1983 in Cardiff, UK. Lives and works in Berlin and London) combines experimental techniques with a sense of spatial arrangement. He negotiates questions of history and memory, of archives and conservation. His detailed works reveal a choreographic understanding of space, and of how people move through it.