

secession

Vereinigung bildender KünstlerInnen Wiener Secession
Friedrichstraße 12, A-1010 Wien
T. +43-1-587 53 07, F. +43-1-587 53 07-34
office@secession.at, www.secession.at

Press information

Fernanda Gomes

April 12 – June 16, 2019



Fernanda Gomes, 2019, photo: Pat Kilgore

Press conference: Thursday, April 11, 2019, 10 a.m.

Opening: Thursday, April 11, 2019, 7 p.m.

Since the 1980s, the Brazilian artist Fernanda Gomes has used ordinary and affordable materials to make objects and bricolages (always untitled) whose formal idiom recalls Arte Povera, minimalism, and Brazilian constructivism. Leftovers and lost, disregarded, or discarded items as well as commonplace objects such as glass, mirrors, magnets, strings, hairs, cigarette butts, newspapers, and old furniture are arranged on the scene of the exhibition, assembled in fragile and precarious constructions or consolidated and corded for more compact creations.

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Immersion in spaces and places is a key aspect of Gomes's approach to art-making. She explores the characteristic qualities of a setting—the lighting, proportions, the materials, etc.—both through careful observation and by allowing them to affect her on a visceral level. Empty spaces, the artist believes, are not vacant; on the contrary, they teem with information. Both the placement and the constructive execution of her works responds to the exhibition space.

Her site-specific installations often consist of an abundance of objects scattered across the floor and walls, gathered in clusters or rhythmically organized arrangements. Natural light generates an ephemeral play of shadows that activates the situations. The only paint the artist uses is white, which she cherishes as the “receptive color,” revealing even the subtlest shifts in the tonality and intensity of the light. To cite the artist's words: “Painting, sculpture, architecture. Tradition of ruptures. Thought is plastic. Reflection dimensions, with multiple meanings. So many questions at the core of this investigation, light! Color: white. Line, plane, volume, space. Simple. Activate the senses. Detachments, displacements, also in imagination. Painting and sculpture articulate a total space, and autonomy. Perspectives revealed in the movement by the beholder. Include the world's landscape. Play freely with things, because they are, after all, things. Leave behind the verb, with rigor and emotion.”

Gomes has had solo exhibitions most recently at the Museo Jumex, Mexico City (2018); Galeria Luisa Strina, São Paulo, and the Alison Jacques Gallery, London (both 2017); Peter Kilchmann, Zurich (2015); the Centre International de l'art et du Paysage, Vassivière (2013); the Museu da Cidade, Lisbon, and the Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro (both 2012); the Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves, Porto (2006), and elsewhere.

Fernanda Gomes was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1960 and lives in Rio de Janeiro.

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Association of Visual Artists Vienna Secession
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T +43-1-587 53 07
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www.secession.at

Opening hours	Tuesday to Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Permanent Presentation	Gustav Klimt, <i>Beethovenfries</i>
Admission	Adults € 9,50 Pupils, students and senior citizens € 6,-
Guided tours	Every Saturday at 11 a.m. in English and 2 p.m. in German € 3,- per person plus admission (without registration)
Art Information	Every Saturday, 1 – 2 p.m. (while exhibitions of contemporary art are on view), free of charge

Press contact

Karin Jaschke
T. +43 1 587 53 07-10
F. +43 1 587 53 07-34
E-Mail: presse@secession.at

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