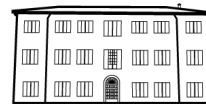


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FONDAZIONE FURLA

FURLA SERIES #03

NAIRY BAGHRAMIAN. *Misfits*

Curated by Bruna Roccasalva

Promoted by Fondazione Furla and GAM - Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Milan

GAM - Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Milan

16 April - 19 July 2020

Fondazione Furla and GAM - Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Milan, are pleased to announce *Misfits*, a Nairy Baghramian exhibition curated by Bruna Roccasalva.

The artist's first solo exhibition in an Italian institution, *Misfits* is a project conceived specifically for the GAM spaces. It explores some of the pivotal themes of the artist's research, from her interest in crossing and redefining the border between interior and exterior to the relationship between the aesthetic object and its institutional context.

Nairy Baghramian has been pushing the limits of sculptural language for two decades. In her rigorous formal and conceptual research, she investigates the relationship between architecture, object and the human body, highlighting the political potential of sculptural forms and the importance of the physicality of the work. Thus, through its specific formal, material and expository hallmarks, the work manages to embody ideas and theoretical assumptions.

Baghramian firmly believes that a work of art, despite its considerable autonomy, is always inextricably linked to the time, place and socio-political context in which it appears. Accordingly, for the *Misfits* project, she began with the specific urban setting of the GAM, that is, a garden open to adults only when accompanied by children. The artist has used the traditional material marble for the first time to create a series of large-scale sculptures, formally conceived to inhabit both the interior and exterior spaces of the museum. They combine a reflection on play as an educational tool with her interest in intervening in the physical and conceptual spaces that mark a boundary.

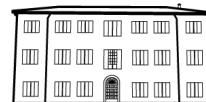
The disassembled parts of these sculptures recall the structure typical of certain objects used in play and become the starting point for considering how disappointment, maladjustment, inadequacy and failure could not only be temporary experiences in the formation of the individual but assert their independent *raison d'être* even as formal manifestations.

Furla Series #03 – Nairy Baghramian. *Misfits* is the outgrowth of a partnership between **Fondazione Furla** and **GAM – Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Milan**, with the generous contribution of **Fondazione Henraux** for the production of the works in marble.

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NAIRY BAGHRAMIAN

Nairy Baghramian was born in 1971 in Isfahan, Iran. In 1984, she moved to Berlin, where she currently lives and works.

She has had solo exhibitions at major museums, such as: MUDAM, Luxembourg (2019); Museo Reina Sofía, Palacio de Cristal del Retiro, Madrid (2018); Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2017-2018); Museum der Moderne, Salzburg (2017); S.M.A.K. – Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst, Gent (2016); Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich (2016); Museo Tamayo, Mexico City (2015); MIT List Visual Arts Center, Boston (2013); SculptureCenter, New York (2013); Kunsthalle Mannheim (2012); Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden (2008); Kunstvereins Nürnberg – Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft, Nuremberg (2007); Kunsthalle Basel, Basel (2006).

Her work has been featured in group exhibitions at major international institutions, including: Malmö Konsthall, Malmö (2018); The National Museum of Art, Osaka (2018); Madre – Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Donnaregina, Naples (2017); Museum Brandhorst, Munich (2016); Mumok – Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien, Vienna (2016); Swiss Institute / Contemporary Art, New York (2016); Punta della Dogana, Venice (2015); Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne (2012); Kunsthau Dresden, Dresden (2012); Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Nuremberg (2012); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2011); Museum Ludwig, Cologne (2010); Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal, Montreal (2010); Weserburg, Bremen (2009); Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen (2009); Tate Modern, London (2008).

She has exhibited at biennial and international festivals, such as: Performa 19, New York (2019); Venice Biennale (2011; 2019); 14th Lyon Biennale, France (2017); documenta 14, Kassel (2017); Skulptur Projekte Münster 2017; Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture (2015); Berlin Biennale (2008, 2014); Glasgow International (2012).

Baghramian is among the finalists of the Hugo Boss Prize 2020.

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