



The Past Is A Foreign Country (detail) 2018, 300 x 400 x 300 cm, 20 birch trees, twine, paper

Anita Groener: *The Past Is A Foreign Country*

30th September 2018 – 6th January 2019.

The Past Is A Foreign Country asks what is it to be human today? Through drawings, large scale installations, film, and animation Anita Groener explores the tissue of trauma and loss rooted in this question. She makes work for what still needs language, experimenting with both figurative and abstract geography. The deliberately modest means of the work (twigs, paper, pins, twine and gouache) speak to the fragility of life and society that refugee crises expose. Her art asks questions about the ethics of witnessing atrocity and aesthetic response.

Carnegie Building, Pery Square, Limerick, Ireland.

FREE ADMISSION

Tel: +353(0)61 310633; F:+353(0)61 310228; Email: artgallery@limerick.ie; Web www.gallery.limerick.ie

Opening Hours: Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday & Saturday 10-5.30pm; Thursday 10-8pm; Sunday 12-5.30.

LAST ENTRY 5 & 7.30pm **Closed on Public & Bank Holidays.**



Moments, HD animated drawings (series of five), stills

An attempt to translate terror's destabilizing impact is echoed in *Moments*, a collaborative project with Syrian journalist Razan Ibraheem. Five animated line drawings, portraits of children traced and removed from their original context, play in a continued loop against a soundtrack of street noise, intermittently punctuated by voices from the actual video footage.

A special performance by world renowned Syrian musician, **Maya Youssef**, will be held on Thursday 18 October 6pm. Maya Youssef born in Damascus is hailed as "queen of the *qanun*", the 78 stringed Middle Eastern plucked zither. For Youssef the act of playing music is the opposite of death; it is a life and hope affirming act. For her, music is a healer and an antidote to what is happening not only in Syria, but in the whole world.

This exhibition received an Arts Council Touring and Dissemination Award and will tour to The Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon, Uilinn, Skibbereen, Cork and The Lab, Dublin in 2019.

A new book to accompany this touring exhibition with contributions from Joseph R. Wolin, writer and curator based in New York City; Séan Kissane, curator Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; Suzanne Lynch, Washington DC correspondent for The Irish Times; Razan Ibraheem, Syrian journalist based in Ireland and Peter Sirr, Irish poet, will be published in November 2018.

Anita Groener was born in The Netherlands and is based in Dublin, Ireland.

In 2005, she was elected a member of Aosdána, the prestigious official association of Ireland's preeminent cultural producers. Until 2014 she was a lecturer at the Dublin Institute of Technology where she also served as the Head of Fine Art from 2004 to 2006. Her work has been exhibited at the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; Royal Hibernian Academy Dublin, Dublin; the Stedelijk Museum Schiedam; the Centre Culturel Irlandais, Paris; Witteveen Visual Art Centre, Amsterdam; the Kilkenny Arts Festival, Kilkenny; Poggiali & Forconi Gallery, Florence; Rubicon Gallery, Dublin and Rubicon Projects, Brussels; Butler Gallery Kilkenny; Eugen Lendl Gallery, Graz; *Art on Paper*, New York City, with Gibbons & Nicholas; Art Miami, Miami, with Gibbons & Nicholas USA; Volta Basel, Switzerland with Gibbons & Nicholas; *Point B* | Williamsburg, New York City and DuPont Underground, Washington DC, USA.

Further enquires please contact artgallery@limerick.ie, anitagroener@gmail.com

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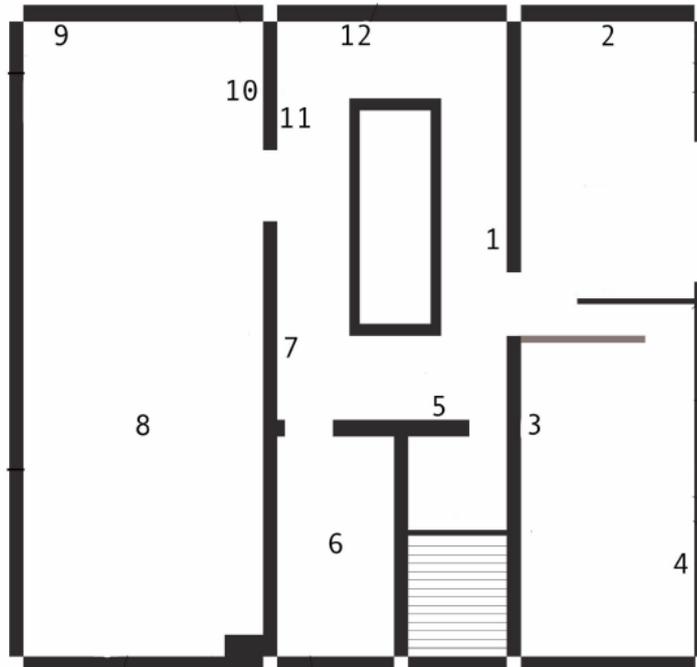
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Anita Groener | The Past Is A Foreign Country



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| 1. <i>Everything Standing Up Alive</i> , 2015
ink on paper
27.5 x 32.5 cm | 7. <i>Parallel Worlds</i> , 2018
Polymer gouache on paper
14 x 20 cm |
| 2. <i>Prolonged By A Hundred Shadows</i> , 2018
painted twigs, paper, twine
110 cm diameter | 8. <i>The Past Is A Foreign Country</i> , 2018
Twenty young birch trees, paper, twine
300 x 400 x 300 cm |
| 3. <i>Blink</i> , 2018 edit
HD film, 39 min, looped | 9. <i>Nest</i> , 2018
HD film, 28 min, looped |
| 4. <i>Fugue</i> , 2016
HD film 4.30 minutes, looped | 10. <i>Wall</i> , 2013
ink on paper
66.5 x 76.5 cm |
| 5. <i>A Day In The Life (16)</i> , 2016
ink on paper
14 x 20 cm | 11. <i>Unit (17)</i> , 2016
ink on paper
8.5x 14 cm |
| 6. <i>Moments</i> , 2018
HD animated drawings
Continuous Loop | 12. <i>Everything Standing Up Alive (2)</i> , 2018
polymer gouache on paper
29 x 42 cm |
| 1. They Were Smiling | |
| 2. I'm Afraid To Suffocate in the Dust | |
| 3. Don't Cut My New Pyjamas | |
| 4. Thank You | |
| 5. Last Goodbye | |

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