



Mona Hatoum
all of a quiver, 2022
18.9.22 – 29.5.23
Kesselhaus

Curator: Kathrin Becker

Mona Hatoum is considered one of the most important and influential contemporary artists. In her extensive oeuvre, she explores in various media the conflicts and contradictions of our world. Since the 1990s, Hatoum has turned her focus to installations and sculptural works, which also marked a transition from working with overtly political content, regularly using her own body in her early performances, towards interrogative works in which the spectators play a central role. Hatoum's installations and sculptures have a minimal aesthetic and object-like quality, although their formal language is not self-referential. Rather, her pared-down structures are full of associations, meanings, and references to our social environment. Hatoum's works can be described as contributions to a sensual and political post-minimalism.

For the Kesselhaus at the KINDL, Mona Hatoum has developed a towering, kinetic, site-specific installation that takes advantage of the tremendous height of the space in the historic boiler house. With its dimensions of 20 x 20 x 20 metres, the boiler house remained largely untouched when the building was converted from an industrial plant into a centre for contemporary art: Traces of the former brewery production can be found on the walls, which are partially covered with simple tiles, as well as structural damage as a result of the building's eventful history. The installation that Hatoum has introduced into this situation consists of a tall, gridded structure, resembling the bare bones of a building in a state of construction or deconstruction.

The structure oscillates between a downward state of collapse only to steady itself and rise again to an upward position. Hatoum's work makes reference to the upheavals of the present and our precarious and shaky existence, witnessing the collapse of prevailing systems and attempts for renewal and reconstruction.

With the exhibition *Mona Hatoum*, three Berlin institutions are presenting the multifaceted work of Mona Hatoum (* 1952 in Beirut, lives in London) in the first large-scale survey of her work in Berlin. The three-part exhibition opens in mid-September at Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (15.9.22 – 13.11.22), Georg Kolbe Museum (15.9.22 – 8.1.23), and the KINDL – Centre for Contemporary Art (18.9.22 – 14.5.23). The influence of Hatoum's works on current discourses on body politics and displacement as well as the emergence of new sculptural tendencies in contemporary art are highlighted.

The exhibition is accompanied by a publication published by Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther und Franz König, Cologne, edited by Marius Babias, Kathrin Becker, and Julia Wallner.

A collaborative project by the Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, the KINDL – Centre for Contemporary Art, and the Georg Kolbe Museum
Curators: Marius Babias, Kathrin Becker, Julia Wallner

Funded by 

As part of 

Mona Hatoum

Recent solo exhibitions include: Magasin III Museum for Contemporary Art, Frihamnen (2022); IVAM – Institut Valencià d'Art Modern (2021); Pulitzer Arts Foundation, St. Louis (2018); Menil Collection, Houston (2017); KIASMA, Helsinki, (2016); Tate Modern, London (2016); Centre Pompidou, Paris (2015)

Selected international exhibitions include: Documenta, Kassel (2017 and 2002); Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art (2013); Istanbul Biennial (2011 and 1995); Biennale of Sydney (2006); Venice Biennale (2005 and 1995).

Hatoum was awarded the Praemium Imperiale (2019), the 10th Hiroshima Art Prize (2017), the Joan Miró Prize (2011), and more recently the 2020 Julio González Prize from IVAM – Institut Valencià d'Art Modern (2020).

Discursive Programme

Symposium

29 October 2022, 2 pm

Maschinenhaus M0

With Marius Babias (Director, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein), Sam Bardaouil (Director, Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart – Berlin), Kathrin Becker (Artistic Director, KINDL – Centre for Contemporary Art), Tamar Garb (Durning Lawrence Professor of Art History, University College London), Natasha Ginwala (Associate Curator at Large, Gropius Bau, Berlin), Mona Hatoum (Artist, London), Polly Staple (Curator and Director of the British Art Collection, Tate, London), among others.

In English

Free admission