

focusfocusfocus

Artist ▾ Slavomíra Ondrušová

Curator ▾ Barbora Kurek Geržová

Duration ▾ November 24, 2023 – January 28, 2024

Venue ▾ Youth Gallery & bod.K7

Opening ▾ November 23, 2023, 6pm

Slavomíra Ondrušová's exhibition is based on her interest in drawing, contemplating it, visualising it and materialising it. Drawing is not just a means to the artist's personal deliberations, but to her own experiences and expressions. Her drawings are touching, sometimes funny, but most of all, true. She considers drawing "a dialogue with herself".

The *focusfocusfocus* exhibition will present the artist's work which incorporates the media of drawing and small object in order to research and deliberate on the relationship of drawing to space, movement and personal experience. It disrupts any conventional notions on what drawing is and offers solutions to what it could be. It emphasises the creative process which is equally important as the final piece.

Delicate drawings in the form of diary entries serve as the artist's intimate statement about her inner world. She talks about her personal experiences, interpreting her own emotions. She takes interest in interpersonal relationships and the way they work. How she perceives herself and others. She utilises a small form factor to depict figures, objects, shapes and lines which are often supplemented by text – descriptions of certain situations, emotions or feelings – Stucked in my body; no way; lightness; sadness; many problems; radical empathy; I don't sleep very well; I miss you; regret; decision; attention; self love; are you hear?; mirroring me; let go; you're going nowhere; fatigue; What matters. I don't know etc. These focus on themes the artist

feels closest to, she can relate to them, she lives them. She uncovers strong emotions while being authentic and vulnerable. It is a method of intuitive drawing without a predetermined concept, but with a clear outcome. The most important aspects are deliberation, attention and focus. The process of drawing is also the process of thinking and thus becomes its extended arm. She uses the physical movement of her hand to visualise her experiences, connecting the body with emotions. It is a non-verbal communication of physical processes.

She takes individual strokes, gestures and lines of her drawings and materialises them into delicate metal objects which reflect her perception of the medium. They are made of steel wires that are used as an auxiliary material in jewellery production which effectively turns them into waste material. The objects, which tend to move and start to "shiver" in response to even a light breeze or a subtle movement, seem very fragile and draw an analogy to our life experience, they are its imprints.

Slavomíra Ondrušová (*1985, Bratislava) focuses mostly on drawing, illustrations, objects and their various overlaps. She studied at the Studio S+M+L_XL – Metal and Jewel under prof. Karol Weisslechner at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava (2006 – 2012) where she also concluded her doctoral studies (2012 – 2019). During the doctoral studies, she also worked under prof. Kadri Mälk at the Estonian Academy of Arts (2013 – 2014). Together with Milan Vagač, they co-founded and led a magazine on contemporary drawing titled Časopis X [Magazine X] (2013 – 2017). She holds unconventional drawing workshops for the general public. At the moment, she works as an assistant lecturer at the Printmaking 1 studio at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague.