

Julia Spínola
vis.

25 September 2020 – 8 December 2020

Turn it all turns

Exhibition series at the Espai 13 of the Fundació Joan Miró

Curator: Marc Navarro

With the collaboration of Banco Sabadell Foundation

Press Release

Julia Spínola proposes the revision of multiple premises of perception, in *vis.*

This project for the exhibition series *Turn it all turns* proposes an installation that points to the difficulty of fixating objects in space and to the instability of images.

Sculptures and silkscreens enable the artist to question the act of seeing as a way of comprehending reality. In her project, the gaze is key to a framework of experience where meanings are erased and where the observers become newly aware of their presence in the process of perception.

***Turn it all turns* is the exhibition series at the Espai 13 of the Fundació Joan Miró for the 2019–2021 season, with the support of Banco Sabadell Foundation. Curated by Marc Navarro Fornós (Deltebre, 1984), the project explores and activates the notion of estrangement, proposing a rereading of our immediate surroundings and of how we relate in them.**

Barcelona, 25 September 2020. The work of Julia Spínola (Madrid, 1979) has been developed primarily in sculpture and drawing. Her artistic research invites us to revise some of the certainties that govern the field of experience, while proposing a particular articulation of the spaces it is inserted in. A gesture—an intuition in movement previous to the fixation of the image—is what drives her working process, which has to do with the will to move matter in one or another way. Matter and language enter into contact with each other in her work, and even end up exchanging positions in the quest to explore questions such as lightness, weight, tension, friction, resistance or the unexpected.

In her most recent projects, Spínola confronts us with the conventions of perception, pointing directly at the structures that uphold it. Through her sculptural work, the artist questions the temporal and spatial parameters that intervene in the experience of the three-dimensional object. She does this by rehearsing a set of procedures based on action and reaction that respond to touch and the gaze. In the words of Marc Navarro, curator of the series *Turn it all turns*, “placed halfway between being made and unmaking, her pieces testify to a conflict with the idea of permanence and the condition of the closed-off object.”



Spínola’s proposal for the Espai 13 of the Fundació Joan Miró takes as its title *vis.*, a graphic creation of an abstract, synthetic nature that could take on various meanings, but which resists being used as a statement.

In *vis.*, this is reified in a series of sculptures that are variations based on the same component. Spínola has worked on forms that focus in on the concept of the extreme, that transitional territory which is both the end of the object and the beginning of the surroundings. This uncertain site problematises the definition of objects or the fixation of images, inviting us to turn towards mechanisms of perception. The artist also makes use of graphic motifs, which are arranged in the space as silkscreened inscriptions directly on the wall. According to Navarro, “sculptures and graphic marks establish an interdependent relationship, and Spínola sets them out in such a way as to give rise to resonances: a vibration that forces the optic nerve and transforms our perception once again into a conscious mechanism. Looking has us return to our own presence, and situates us in a perceptive framework where meanings are erased.”

Julia Spínola (Madrid, 1979) is a sculptor. She has a degree in Fine Arts from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, and also studied at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon. Spínola has participated in many group exhibitions, including *Rojamente* (Espacio Artiatx, Bilbao, 2020), *Les escenes* (La Capella, Barcelona, 2019) and *Roca* (with David Bestué, Halfhouse, Barcelona, 2016). She has shown her work individually in exhibitions like *V.* (Galería Heinrich Ehrhardt, Madrid, 2019), *Lubricán* (CA2M, Madrid, 2018) and *Cien rostros iguales* (etHALL, Barcelona, 2016–2017), amongst others. She was the winner of the El Ojo Crítico de Artes Plásticas Award, granted by Radio Nacional de España (2013), and the ARCO Prize of the Madrid Region (2017). She has also been a recipient of the Fundación Marcelino Botín artist grant (2013) and was a resident artist at the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD, 2018-2019). Her work is found in the collections of the Museo Reina Sofía, La Panera (Lleida) and the Madrid Region.

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The response to certain stimuli, as well as to the movement of ideas or the physical and cultural comprehension of reality, often takes place on the basis of automatic mechanisms that are hard to detect. *Turn it all turns* approaches forms of communication that resist such mechanisms, playing with meanings and displacing events from their habitual contexts. The series invites us to suspend emotions and to move through a zone of uncertainty where artists establish a dialogue, beyond all conventions, with the space hosting their proposals.

Turn it all turns is comprised of four exhibition projects, respectively by Laia Estruch, Beatriz Olabarrieta, Julia Spínola and Lorea Alfaro-Jon Otamendi, and of an educational project by Victor Ruiz Colomer.

Upcoming exhibitions in the series *Turn it all turns*

Lorea Alfaro and Jon Otamendi

Spring 2021

The projects of Lorea Alfaro explore the subject of yearnings, examining aspects of the communicative process that have to do with persuasion and seduction. Alfaro mimics the mechanisms of visual production in fashion to put the emphasis on language, forms of distribution and the consumption of imagery. In turn, the work of Jon Otamendi creates concrete situations on the basis of minimal gestures that transform architecture and its functions. In their collaborative proposals, the visual and tectonic components are melded together, giving rise to an immersive effect.



Images and press material, at <https://www.fmirobcn.org/en/foundation/press/> and <http://bit.ly/2IX3ec5>. Follow the activities of the Espai 13 on social media with the hashtag [#GiraEspai13](#).

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