

Momu & No Es. *Plural Being: I Am the Others, the Others are Me*

Inauguration: 19 January 2017, at 7 pm

With the support of Mondriaan Fund

One Foot Out: Expeditions and Diasporas**Exhibition series at the Espai 13 of the Fundació Joan Miró**

23 September, 2016 – 11 September, 2017

Curator: Jordi Antas

With the collaboration of the Fundació Banc Sabadell

Press Release

Momu & No Es address the human condition in the hyperconnected age, at the Espai 13 of the Fundació Joan Miró.

Taking personal space and the body as a rehearsal sites, the exhibition *Plural Being: I Am the Others, the Others are Me*, examines the play of balances between tangible identity and the virtual identity of the individual in digital society.

Curated by Jordi Antas, the exhibition is part of the exhibition series *One Foot Out: Expeditions and Diasporas*, held at the Espai 13 of the Fundació Joan Miró for the 2016–2017 season. It has been organized with the collaboration of the Fundació Banc Sabadell. The series is a reflection on questions of pertinence, continuity and the rupture of the established model in the Barcelona art scene.

Barcelona, January 19, 2017. Momu & No Es (Lucía Moreno and Eva Noguera) are an artistic team working on the frontier between reality and fiction. Their practice constructs far-out and incisive stories that have the goal of exploring human relationships, questioning social roles and reflecting on the mechanisms by which postmodern society works.

As part of the exhibition series *One Foot Out: Expeditions and Diasporas*, the artists present the show *Plural Being: I Am the Others, the Others are Me*, a large installation comprised of 11 pieces, produced with additional support from the Mondriaan Fund. The project features a multiplicity of formats, including text, audio, sculpture, video and performative elements, so as to further explore the human condition in the hyperconnected society of the present-day.

The artists begin with an analysis of the uses of digital technology and how it is increasingly integrated into our everyday experience. By means of connected devices and applications, the individual user holds sway over the corporeal individual, with a spectral image of him or herself that is able to forever reproduce itself, multiplying the possibilities of interaction and augmenting the illusion of ubiquity. In the Espai 13 of the Fundació Joan Miró, the artist duo Momu & No Es recreate this plural, interconnected dimension of the present-day individual, while querying about the role of servitude within this new virtuality.



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According to Jordi Antas, curator of the exhibition, *Plural Being: I Am the Others, the Others are Me*, treats the gallery space as a site of sublimation and estrangement. It greets the visitor with a vinyl attached to the floor entitled *I Really Can See You*, a piece that warns us that in the show and in society itself, the individual is constantly in self-observation while being observed as well from without. The looped repetition of the titles of the work in the exhibition creates an immersive, polyphonic atmosphere that enlivens a state of concentration during the visit.

In the centre of the gallery two large-sized pieces are meant to reflect on the mechanisms of promise, sacrifice and compensation in today's society: *I Believe There Are Supernatural Things That Happen*, a golden wall of artificial illusions, where we find *Brace Brace Necklace*, a gigantic Hawaiian flower lei, which here becomes a symbol of the promised land within the model of alienated tourism. Beside it, the performative piece *The Austerity of Imagination* presents a man waiting in an airport with a suitcase that has his own image printed on it, a live meme that plays with the concept of the viral.

After this, the artists use the metaphor of the cushion symbolising the soft character (accommodated, indolent, placid) that characterises the virtual world in *Pillow Awareness*, a large-format image showing a cushion floating at dusk. This work refers as well to the cushion as an emotional substitute in a relational context where physical contact is of secondary concern.

Momu & No Es take on the exponential acceleration of digital society and its consequences (obsolescence, urgency, and the difficulty of living out deep, contemplative experiences, amongst others) by means of a new set of interconnected pieces: the diorama *I Entirely Understand*, where the individual is about to be hit and shoved by an enormous hand, and *DVD is Dead*, a video that reproduces the stand-by phase of DVD players. The artists also dedicate a piece to the millennial generation, the Generation Y, entitled *My Advice to Lucy*. Here the visitor is confronted with a mirror that is both a reflex and reflection on his or her generational identity.

The show ends with two works that centre on rising group pressure in contemporary society: *P.P.I. Posvivos, Predescompuestos and Influencers*, a video and digital print that consider the subject in tension when surrounded by models and prescribers. Finally, with *Everyone Starting New Exciting Stage of Life Except You*, the artists address the hyperactivity and exhibitionism characterising present-day lifestyles.

Lucía Moreno (Basel, 1982) and **Eva Noguera** (Barcelona, 1979) are Momu & No Es, an artist collective working out of Rotterdam and Madrid. They met during their educational period at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Barcelona, with their shared résumé featuring a degree in Technical Architecture from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia, a PhD in Fine Arts from the University of Barcelona and a Master in Fine Arts from the Dutch Art Institute. They habitually work in the fields of video art, installation and screening performance, creating new discursive environments while blending and reinterpreting imaginary worlds and references from popular culture. Their work has been exhibited in galleries and museums nationally and internationally, and is found in the collections of MACBA (Barcelona), MAS (Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Santander), The Rich Collection and the University of Barcelona.

www.momuandnoes.com

One Foot Out: Expeditions and Diasporas, organized by the Fundació Joan Miró with the collaboration of the Fundació Banc Sabadell, proposes a reflection on questions of pertinence, continuity and rupture in the established model of the Barcelona art scene. Jordi Antas, curator of the series at the Espai 13 for the 2016–2017 season, has brought together six artists with independent proposals, which at the same time share certain common interests in exploring speculative circumstances from a liberated position. Each works out of his or her particular context. Ana Garcia-Pineda, Nicolás Lamas, Momu & No Es, Eva Fàbregas, Adrià Julià and Martin Llanveras present projects featuring performativity and public implication, fictions and unforeseen situations when expressing moments that will become historical, hypothetical futures or symbolic thought able to define this voluntary distancing. *One Foot Out: Expeditions and Diasporas* seeks to bring together the relationships and content, reflections and uncertainty of whoever works away from home, while underscoring the gaze from a distance.

Press images and material available at www.fmirobcn.org/premsa and <http://bit.ly/2a8X67G>.

Follow the activities of the Espai 13 on social media using the hashtag #Peuafora.

With the collaboration of:

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