

# ART SITUACIONS III

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ELENA AITZKOA, NORA AURREKOETXEA, LUCÍA BAYÓN, ELSA BRÈS, PABLO CAPITÁN DEL RÍO, SALOMÉ CHATRIOT, MARIE-LUCE NADAL, BENOÎT PIÉRON, ALEIX PLADEMUNT, YOAN SORIN

ART Situacions announces its third call for proposals dedicated to emerging art. Consolidated at an international level, this is an important private patronage initiative that constantly fosters artistic creation.

This edition focuses on emerging Spanish and French artists, including a committee of experts formed by María de Corral, Lorena M. de Corral, Chus Martínez and Vicent Todolí. The exhibition *ART Situacions III* was presented at ARCOmadrid 2023 and is currently at La Capella.

The participating artists are Elena Aitzkoa, Nora Aurrekoetxea, Lucía Bayón, Elsa Brès, Pablo Capitán del Río, Salomé Chatriot, Marie-Luce Nadal, Benoît Piéron, Aleix Plademunt and Yoan Sorin.

The exhibition is part of Concentric, a public programme by La Capella that forges relationships with similar artistic spaces.

## ABOUT ART SITUACIONS

ART Situacions aims to promote the visual arts by encouraging production and dissemination dynamics in the form of direct relations with emerging national and international artists, constantly seeking to bring artistic practice to a broader, more diverse audience.

The first edition of ART Situacions was launched in 2011 with a selection of Spanish and Portuguese artists, including a committee of experts formed by Teresa Blanch, María de Corral, Yolanda Romero and Vicent Todolí, with exhibitions at Arts Santa Mònica (Barcelona), Museo Patio Herreriano (Valladolid), Domus Artium 2022 (Salamanca) and Museo Extremeño Iberoamericano de Arte Contemporáneo (Badajoz).

The 2012 edition brought together artists from Spain and Italy, and its committee was formed by María de Corral, Vicent Todolí, Lorena M. de Corral and Ilaria Gianni. The exhibitions on this occasion were held at Villa Croce (Genoa), Rome's Museum of Contemporary Art and Matadero Madrid.

From 2017 to 2022, ART Situacions organised its annual ART Situacions Prize as part of ARCOmadrid, awarded to the best emerging artwork at the fair.

## ARTISTS

### ELENA AITZKOA

Elena Aitzkoa (Apodaka, 1984) graduated in fine art from the University of the Basque Country. Her practice includes sculpture, drawing, poetry, performance and film. Her creations are based on a varied ecosystem fed by the physical and emotional elements of her surrounding experiences. The artist goes on daily outings, seeking inspiration, getting lost in the city, and allowing chance to intervene in her work.

*Nomadic Objects* is the distillate of her outings and her experience deriving from past and future actions in her life. All the objects form a series of bundle-sculptures in which time and space are folded together, taking physical shape as packages, so to speak, scattered across the floor that the visitor is invited to stroll among as if in a garden of stones.

### NORA AURREKOETXEA

Nora Aurrekoetxea (Bilbao 1989) graduated in fine art from the University of the Basque Country in 2013. Her work is based on a sculptural way of understanding and constructing installations in which various formal languages – text, objects and performance – share the same space and time. She focuses on the emotional and psychological aspects of experience and explores the complex individual and collective psychological dynamics in the private sphere. Objects are presented in relation to the space they occupy, functioning as a system of co-dependence in which the form can attain its own autonomy and situate the instability of the narratives as the structure of that disequilibrium.

### LUCÍA BAYÓN

Lucía Bayón Mendoza (1994) lives and works in Madrid. Bayón's practice encompasses both writing and sculpture. She regards the various elements of her work – language and objects – as rhetorical devices in a semantic field in which the body, rituals and the symbolic are involved, as is the friction between form and function generated by the seriality and accumulation of gestures, rhythms and materials.

### ELSA BRÈS

Elsa Brès (1985) lives in Bréau in the Cévennes region of France. Her films and installations focus on the forces of resistance in contemporary landscapes and combine research, narrative and experimentation. She is currently



working on a new film, *Les Sanglières*, set in the rural area where she lives, in which boar as treated as allies.

#### PABLO CAPITÁN DEL RÍO

Pablo Capitán del Río (1982) was born in Granada and now lives and works in both Barcelona and the city of his birth. In his art, precarity is present not just due to his use of materials generally close to the realm of Arte Povera, but also in the sense of the work as a composition constantly on the verge of collapsing. His artworks, including his interventions that revolve around the reclaiming of natural processes, as well as his more objectual installations and sculptures, always present an imbalance that instils in the spectator an awareness that everything can change from one moment to the next.

#### SALOMÉ CHATRIOT

Salomé Chatriot (Paris, 1995) fuses technological elements with organic parts to create physical and virtual spaces in which electronic sculptures and digital images co-exist. In her work, physical processes such as breathing and the beating of the heart trigger mechanical processes, giving rise to a symbiotic relationship between human bodies and technological devices.

Chatriot explores questions to do with identity, gender and sexuality, employing a clearly erotic component while at the same time challenging the dominant narratives. Using her hybrid, disturbing yet optimistic artistic language, she succeeds in generating unconventional approaches in relation to technological tools.

#### MARIE-LUCE NADAL

Marie-Luce Nadal (Perpignan, 1984) pursues research at the intersection between artistic and scientific exploration. The atmosphere is her main medium, which she uses to reproduce clouds, capture lightning bolts, cultivate fog and produce rain, always driven by the same question: how can we capture the air, possess the intangible?

In her work midway between industrial production and utopian dreams, Nadal, a queer artist and researcher, wages the war begun by her winemaking forebears to dominate the sky. Like a modern alchemist, she creates mists and cloudy formations, follows the flow of breathing to reveal the topography of a wandering spirit and attempts to control the behaviour of insects. She makes work-machines that have the particular characteristic of blending artistic singularity, scientific research and technical viability. Through her works, installations and performances, Nadal endows the sky with symbolic and political tension. Her pieces often involve the use of advanced technologies.

#### BENOÎT PIÉRON

Benoît Piéron (Ivry-sur-Seine, 1983) creates moments, installations and objects. He is interested in the sensuality of plants, the boundaries of the body and the temporality of waiting rooms. He practices patchwork and existential gardening and designs wallpaper. As he has always lived with a disease, the hospital environment is his ecosystem. From time to time, he teaches workshops on botany and ableism. In the autumn of 2021, he ran workshops on gardening at Le Crédac (Ivry-sur-Seine) as part of the programming of the *Dead Souls Whisper* (1986-1993) exhibition on the British artist and filmmaker Derek Jarman. For some months, he has been examining the survival of unicorns, the place of the orgasm in hospitals and deadly flora.

#### ALEIX PLADEMUNT

From his early projects, Aleix Plademunt (Girona, 1980) has shown a special interest in the territory, the landscape and the space, focusing on their formations, transformations, modifications, manipulations, alterations, extractions, uses, abuses and waste materials.

Each of Plademunt's projects features a constellation of images that juxtapose carefully composed independent images to create new dimensions of meaning. His long-term research undertakings are full of philosophical inquiries that explore questions to do with time and distance and which examine how photographs condition our way of seeing, as well as studying decolonial and non-anthropocentric perspectives.

#### YOAN SORIN

'The practice of Yoan Sorin (1982) varies according to the mythologies he brings up to date in his drawings, installations, paintings and performances. Midway between outsider art, the statuary aesthetic and cheap junk, Sorin's work is related on a nomadic level to domestic objects and ornaments in its profuse use of composite perspectives, colour blocks, exotic fabrics, and fluorescent textures' (Frédéric Emprou).