



THE SOAP ROOM

MIŠA MAREK

Selection of works 2005 - 2022

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I can't make you love me

2014

In her work, artist Miša Marek encounters memories, emotions, and longings through sensual reconstructions of relationships, physical experiences and spatial conditions.

Experimenting humorously with identities emerging from different areas Miša's work challenges to look for their original abandonment in the individual story underneath. By dwelling on this original plain of yearning to attain a different life, relationship, or place her subtle approach uncovers what we are moved by, and by doing so, lets us pass beyond our individual boundaries or experience emotional intimacy. (The Soap Room)



When Souls Meet Again

2021

Audio-installation, 3' 18"

In *When Souls Meet Again*, embedded between two mirrors a voice sings of that moment when two souls want to meet again in next life for they can not be together in the present. This piece dwells on emotions such as missed moments, great love, and loneliness.



Looking for Marie

2017/2022

Photography (various sizes, frames), telescope, dimensions variable

Based on Yoko Ono's book *Grapefruit* and her suggestion "Write your own synopsis" *Looking for Marie* looks out for the Marie's in life.



Untitled (body)

2020

Various materials, 100 x 140 x 50cm

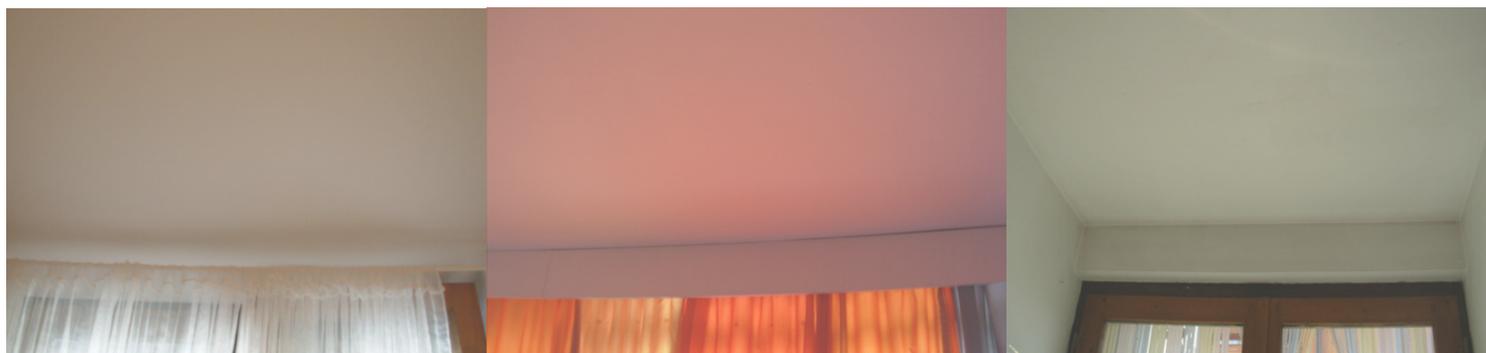


Silent Tears (Re-enactment)
2011
Light box, 30 x 40cm



Silent Tears (Marie)
2006
20 slides, Mini-DV Video

Houses, clothes, bodies and objects tell their own stories. This is because their particular materiality reflects the reticent and lonesome people that inhabit them, yet are incapable of expressing actual needs or problems. And this is how they become part of the narrative and collaborate in the formulation of its story, symbolically standing in for human feelings and experiences. Thus, a personal synopsis may be a little story, but inherits a big one at the same time as it simultaneously tells a universal tale of individual loneliness in modern society. (The Soap Room, Innsbruck)



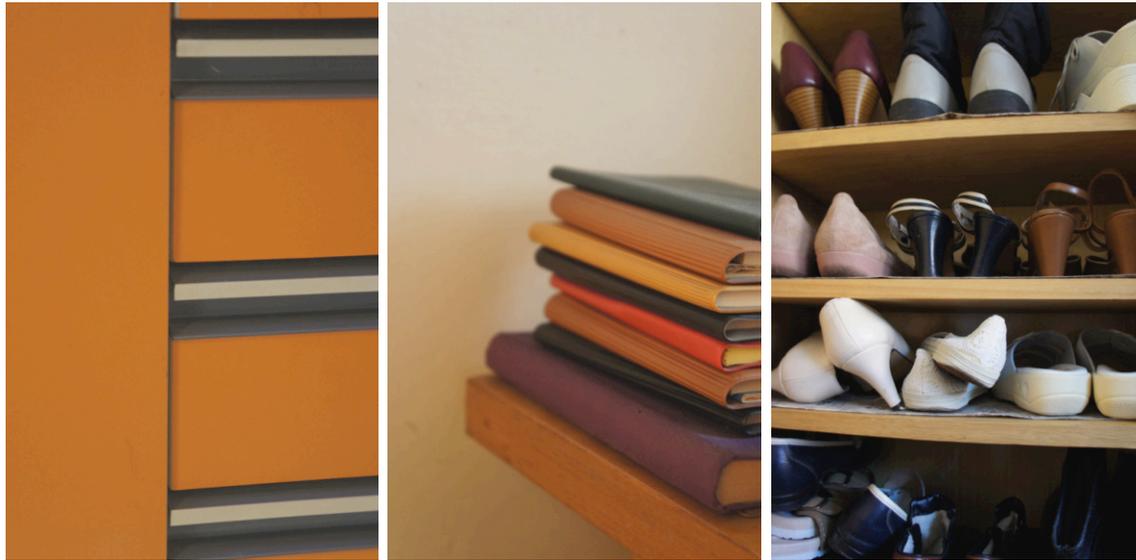
Home Sweet Home

2011

Series of 7 photographs, 20 x 30cm

Edition: 3 + 1 EA

Moving out and moving in with boyfriends echoes homes of the past and question a future within.



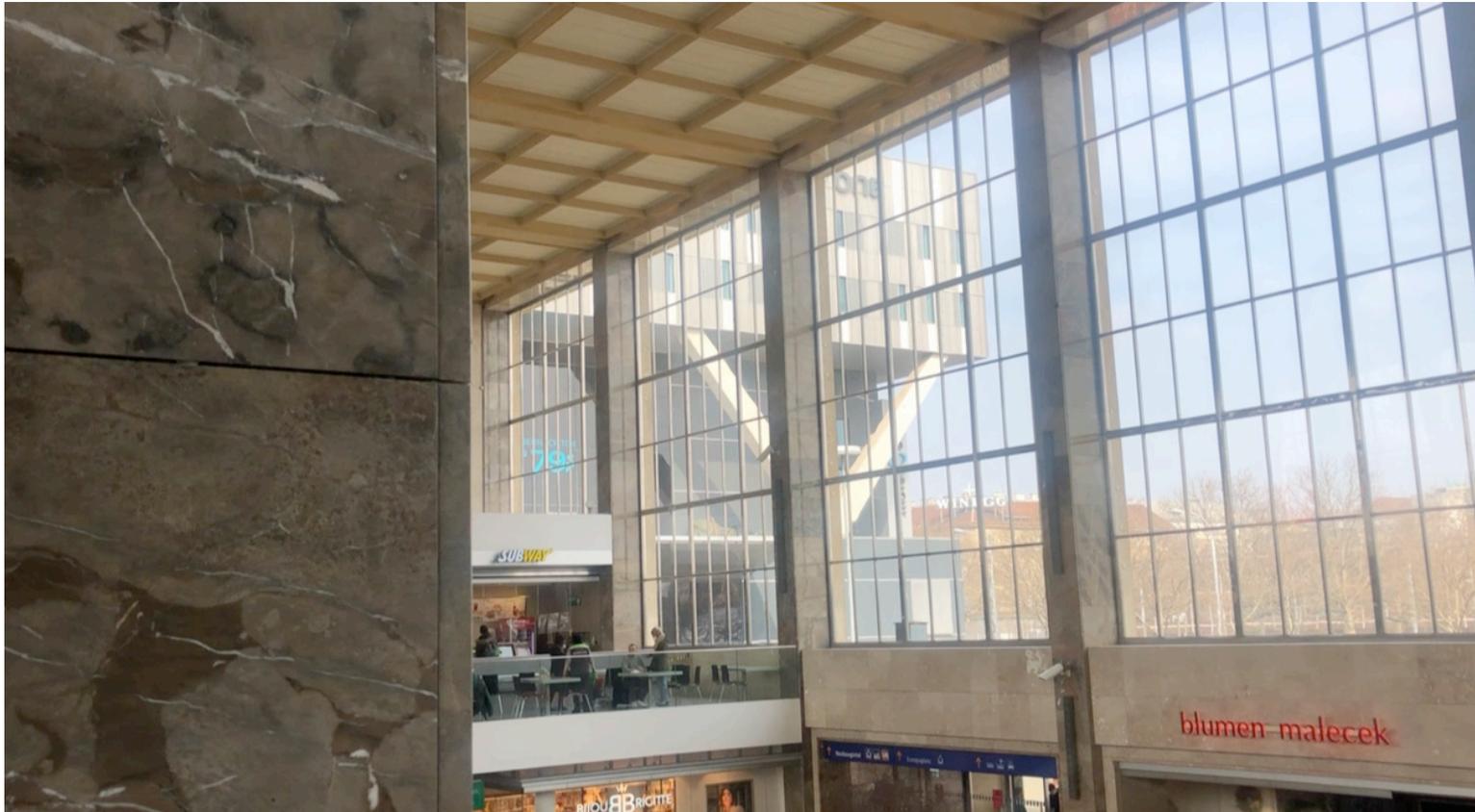
In the House

2011/13

Series of 15 photographs, 30 x 20cm

Edition of 3

A documentation of the grandmother's house in Prague, which has originally been the home of the artist. Tracks, like imprints on the carpet, still show traces of her own furniture. Rooms that were formerly inhabited by the artist, are now crammed and reveal a peculiar order.



Too far too close

2022

Short (video), 7'

Script, Camera, Director: Tereza Kotyk

Text: Gloria Steinem

Schule für Unabhängigen Film Friedl Kubelka, Vienna

Thanks to Jyoti Mistry

Too far too close is a video about the supposedly safe space of a train station, where refugees, people in transit and individuals arrive, looking for a new present and future. The artist suggests the 'inner' safe space in contrary.



Radi

2021

Short (video), 2'

Schule für unabhängigen Film Friedl Kubelka, Vienna

Thanks to Jan Soldat

When COVID hit Vienna, an entire family close to the artist got infected and after a long battle in hospital the husband - the head of the family - died. His wife, Radi, whilst preparing food for the 1/2 year feast mourning his death, is talking about the love of her life.

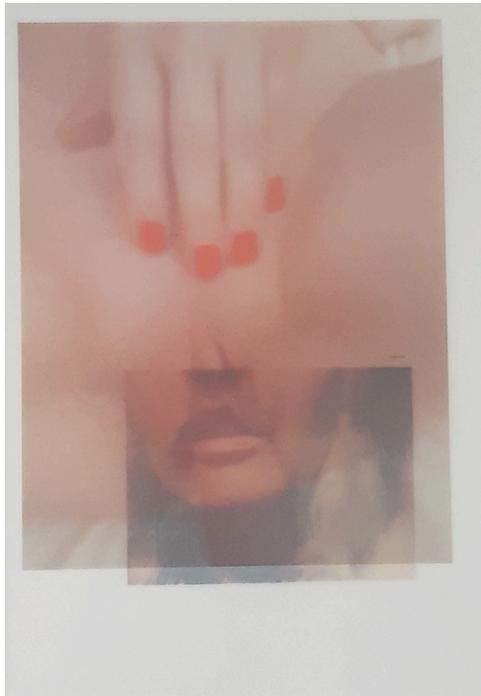


I can't make you love me

2014

Found Footage, series of 25 6 x 9cm photographs

Love, hate, and envy disguised by friendship between two women holidaying and an unknown viewer; a triangle of feelings captured in a series of found photographs.



MM
2020
4 Diptych, tracing paper, collage, 29 x 21cm each



Once and Again (Re-enactment)

2011

Performance, Sequence of 10 photographs, barite paper, 10 x 10cm

Edition: 3 + 1 EA

On one of the artist's trips to Prague, her grandmother persuaded her into a fitting for one of her hand sewn dresses. The fitting was unsuccessful. In a later phone call the grandmother explained that at last she had remembered; the dress can only be tightened from above. They would simply have to try again next time. But there was no "next time" to be had. In a farewell performance, after the grandmother's funeral, Miša finally wore the dress, which she placed over her head, as instructed.



XX

2022

Digital video, 1' 03", sound

with Tereza Kotyk

Schule für unabhängigen Film Friedl Kubelka, Vienna

Thanks to Philipp Fleischmann

XX is the first film in a series dedicated to the lives of women being murdered by their husbands or family members. The film starts off with the wilderness and individuality of love being forced into structure and beliefs from early on, pushing life between an acknowledged male environment and women's inner worlds, launching the struggle and peak of male's power over women. Which is represented in the image of the „Tabakfachgeschäft“ - a woman's working space where she had been locked in and burnt alive by her partner in Vienna.





Grenze/border

2022

16mm Film

with Tereza Kotyk, Leonie Frühe

camera: Tamara Diepold

Schule für unabhängigen Film Friedl Kubelka, Vienna

A body saves experiences of belonging and exclusion, with a fine, yet hidden borderline between the outer world and inner feelings. With a knife this inner line is drawn over the artist's shoulders, neck and head and made visible when the blood starts to press out.



o.T.
2022
Photography (from: *Grenze/border*, 2022)
with Tereza Kotyk



FAITH
2022
S-8-mm Film, 3'
with Tamara Diepold
Schule für unabhängigen Film Friedl Kubelka, Vienna



o.T.
2022
Photography (*FAITH*, 2022)



Untitled #2

2015

Fuji Crystal Archive on Dipond, acrylic glass, ArtBox, 20,8 x 27x8cm

Private Collection

Edition: 1 + 1EA



Intimacy

2020

Short Film (digital), 2' 21"

An apple being peeled, exposing a surprising wound inside.

"Looking for coming full circle. My mother never talked about intimacy, I guess she thought I'll find out myself. The presence of her was intimate enough, all intimacy a child can get. But you get through it very soon. Her look made me shiver, I always felt embarrassed. Have I done anything wrong? I have a boyfriend. She does not know. I have grown up without talking about it. Intimacy had grown in me too. I found out by myself. We have lost trust according to my awakening. My body does not need her anymore. I am using my body the other way round, letting trust be a burden. Being one's savior in another one's pleasure. She has never talked about pleasure. Intimacy can be pleasure. Motherhood does not tell you that (...)"

MIŠA MAREK

*1979, misamarek.com

Guest student at the University of Applied Arts, Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna Art School, and Schule für unabhängigen Film Friedl Kubelka. Short texts, film, video, visual and performative photography. Since 2014 Marek is collaborating with The Soap Room, Innsbruck. She lives and works in the Czech Republic and Austria.

Exhibitions (selection)

- 2022 Kahan Art Space, Budapest
Collective Images (Angelika Reitzer, Leonie Frühe, Luda Putina, Melanie Berger, Robert Rainer, Tamara Diepold), DIT, Schleifmühlgasse 1, Vienna
- 2021 When Souls Meet Again, Premierentage Innsbruck 2021
- 2020 Untitled (At Life Two Humans), Parallel Vienna 2020
- 2019 Salon at Apartment Lackierergasse, Vienna
- 2018 Group exhibition Pop Up-Space Cubus X, Moravia