

## PRESS RELEASE

### MURATCENTOVENTIUE ARTECONTEMPORANEA

#### *YOU ARE MOVING YOUR HEART*

#### KAIA HUGIN

Muratcentoventidue Artecontemporanea is pleased to present "*YOU ARE MOVING YOUR HEART*", a solo exhibition featuring works by the Norwegian artist Kaia Hugin.

Kaia Hugin's work seems to us to be the demonstration of the complexity and richness of the Nordic artistic production of recent decades and our association is particularly pleased to be able to propose it.

Kaia Hugin (born 1975) graduated from the Bergen Academy of Art and Design in 2011, currently lives and works in Drøbak.

The artist, who explores contemporary dance, performance and video art in a transversal way, has been working since 2008 on a series of videos entitled "*Motholic Mobbles*", a reflection on existential themes through the exploration of movement and space.

The title *Motholic Mobbles* is a concept created by the artist herself. It is a linguistic construction that suggests something fragmented and uncontrolled. The word "motility" is commonly used in medicine to denote involuntary muscle movements in our body. "Mobble" can be translated as stammering, an endless incoherent flow.

Her work is part of a tradition of intersections between anthropology and experimental cinema, starting with the lesson of Maya Deren, who, during the middle of the last century, without restraints experimented with combining film, choreography and movement in a surreal and highly personal expression. In Hugin's «mobbles», the main character, as with Deren's female figures, goes through a variety of (compulsive) acts: she hangs, levitates, floats, walks backwards, or bores herself into the ground.

Kaia Hugin's art is rooted in a world where the physical and the real - the body, nature and gravity - merge with dream logic and abstract experience.

The artist uses space, time and the body as compositional elements of her visual partition; everything is treated with an ironic rhythmic game of repetitions and slowdowns and the outstretched arms, the continuous sliding of the bodies, the dreamy glances, underline the exit from the ordinary. Performance-based films create an experience of an alien world, a universe in which other rules and laws of gravity apply. In an attempt to grasp the psychological and bodily experiences, a surreal and dystopian, but also dark and humorous story opens up about man's fears and desire and the possibility of self-determination.

In the three videos of the *Motholic Mobbles* series, proposed in this exhibition, we meet a female character, played by the artist, who performs absurd and apparently irrational acts. We see her in a beautiful mountain landscape where she dug a hole in the ground while lying in a fetal position. In a freezing room, she balances on her abdomen on a stool while making swimming movements with her limbs. There is something ambiguous about the powerful and repetitive movements which, however, do not change her position. It's like a nightmare where she runs, but it's not really like that. According to the artist, the work shows fragility and strength at the same time, it is a continuous search for balance in an otherwise chaotic existence.

In the newest *Motholic Mobble* film (# 11) we meet the artist (protagonist as usual) in a deep Norwegian wood, climbing up a large spruce tree. That's the set, quite simple – a woman and a tree, but during the almost 15 minutes the film lasts, a journey is carried out, a symbiotic and chaotic journey takes place in which the protagonist falls and ascends .. and confronts us with feelings such as loneliness, the search for freedom and the sense of affiliation with nature.

### **Venue**

Muratcentoventidue-Artecontemporanea

Via G. Murat 122/b – Bari

### **Opening**

Saturday May 28, 2022, 19.30 pm

### **Period**

May 28 – July 15 2022

### **Opening hours**

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday by appointment only

From Thursday to Saturday, from 17.30 to 20.30

### **Info**

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<http://www.muratcentoventidue.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/MuratcentoventidueArtecontemporanea>

[https://www.instagram.com/muratcentoventidue\\_bari](https://www.instagram.com/muratcentoventidue_bari)

### **CV**

Kaia Hugin was born in Oslo in 1975. She graduated with an MA in Fine Arts from the National Academy of the Arts in Bergen, Norway in 2011. She also has a background from contemporary dance and studies in Art History. Hugin has showed her work, among other places, at Whitechapel Gallery in London, UK, La Capella in Barcelona, ES, Frankfurter Kunstverein, DE, LOOP in Barcelona, ES, Hayward Gallery, UK, Gallery Luda in St. Petersburg, RU, Stiftelsen 3,14 in Bergen, NO, Sassari,

Sardinia, IT and The Annual Autumn Exhibition in Oslo, NO. Solo exhibitions includes Muratcentoventidue Artecontemporanea in Bari, IT (2011), Oslo Fine Art Society, NO (2013), Vigeland Museum, NO (2015), Fotogalleriet Format in Malmö, SE (2016), Sandefjord Fine Art Society, NO (2017) and North Norwegian Art Centre, NO (2017).