

The Making of Husbands

14.02 —
10.05.20

Christina Ramberg in Dialogue

With works by

Alexandra Bircken, Sara Deraedt, Gaylen Gerber, Frieda Toranzo Jaeger, Konrad Klapheck, Ghislaine Leung, Senga Nengudi, Ana Pellicer, Christina Ramberg, Richard Rezac, Diane Simpson, Kathleen White

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At the heart of exhibition lies a selection of Christina Ramberg's paintings and drawings, which are put in dialogue with artistic positions such as Alexandra Bircken, Sara Deraedt, Gaylen Gerber, Frieda Toranzo Jaeger, Konrad Klapheck, Ghislaine Leung, Senga Nengudi, Ana Pellicer, Richard Rezac, Diane Simpson, and Kathleen White, who extend Ramberg's understanding of the body as an environment that is closely intertwined with its surrounding, shaped by corsets, hairdos as well as behavioral conventions.

"Containing, restraining, reforming, hurting, compressing, binding, transforming a lumpy shape into a clean smooth line" — is how the American artist Christina Ramberg (1946–1995) once described the drawings of corsets in her sketchbooks. Ramberg was one of the most intriguing painters to emerge within a generation of Chicago Imagists. Operating under the influences of Surrealism, she painted cropped torsos, sharply delineated and bound in bizarre

variations of corsets, bandages, and textures, that exude an unnerving calm burdened with a conflicted desire.

The works by contemporary and historical positions that dialogically relate to Ramberg's works, ask about the structures that externally and internally determine our existence and articulate a relation of interdependence between the body and everyday objects, built constructions and infrastructure.

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The exhibition was conceived by co-curator Anna Gritz, and produced by KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin, Germany, in cooperation with 49 Nord 6 Est - Frac Lorraine and BALTIC, Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead, UK.

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