

Emma Bernhard

A Ballet

An Army

A ballet.

An ensemble.

Together they dance. They are not real dancers. They struggle. Not made of the finest materials they have to fake their way through the movements. They are stiff and more often than not they end up failing.

I collect materials. Often things that other's don't want. Sometimes I find them and sometimes I buy them if they look lonely. I put the sculptures together like collages, they find themselves a story, a context and maybe a purpose. Nothing grand, one's purpose most often isn't.

These ones are dancers. They dance together in uncoordinated moves. In silence. The wall pieces are not ready yet, waiting for their turn. It takes time to become a dancer. Yet everyone can dance.

The sculptures are made of plaster, felt, fat, nylon tubes. Nothing special. Faking the special. But not being special doesn't mean anything.

They are not ready to perform. But one never is.

Emma Bernhard (Stockholm, 1981) currently lives and works in Stockholm, Sweden. She received a BA in philosophy at the St. Louis University, Madrid (2002-2005), and a BA in Sculpture at the London University of Arts, London (2006-2009). In 2009 Emma Bernhard first presented her works in a selected exhibition by Soyara Rodriguez in London. Thereafter, she participated in various exhibitions, including spring exhibitions at the Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Denmark (2010) and Dover Art Center, United Kingdom (2010), and a solo exhibition "Resistance, Tolerance, Power" at Belenius/Nordenhake, Sweden (2015). In 2015 she completed an artist residency at the NARS Foundation in New York. Recent significant participations include the solo exhibition "Failed Geometry" at Galerie Erik Nordenhake, Sweden (2017) and a group exhibition with Johanna Karlsson at Galerie Arnstedt Östra Karup, Sverige (2018). In 2020 she exhibited at the Gallery Bjorn and Gundorph, Denmark, and participate at the group exhibition "Signature Women" at the Artipelag, Sweden (2020).