

Istituto Svizzero

Marta Riniker-Radich

Patience Will Reward Those Who Lie in Wait

**16.09.2021
30.10.2021**

Solo Exhibition

**Via del Vecchio
Politecnico 3,
Milano**

**Private View
15.09.2021
H18:00-H22:00**

Opening hours

Wed-Fri:	H11:00-17:00
Thu:	H11:00-20:00
Sat:	H14:00-18:00

Press Release

**Contatti stampa
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Istituto Svizzero is pleased to present 'Patience Will Reward Those Who Lie in Wait', the first solo exhibition by Swiss artist Marta Riniker-Radich. Renowned for her small-format pencil drawings, Riniker-Radich presents a new series of drawings on the theme of social and psychological pressure in relation to working conditions. Through surreal imagery, the artist investigates the ways in which vulnerability, insecurities and fears are connected to today's professional world and our increasingly demanding society.

Patience Will Reward Those Who Lie in Wait is influenced by sociological studies and narrative accounts of the type of impersonal and highly bureaucratic white-collar work environments that have been spreading rapidly since the 1950s. In the exhibition, she combines text fragments borrowed from the book *White Collar. The American Middle Classes*, written by sociologist C. Wright Mills in 1951, with highly detailed drawings of human knees – one of the most vulnerable body parts of all. In other drawings, meanwhile, she hints at the every-ready and obsessive office worker with pen protectors in their shirt pocket or the phenomenon of the so-called 'ostrich pillow', a sleep aid to escape the stress of the open plan office and block out the dullness of the working day. The drawings, some of which are exhibited as a kind of 'Gesamtinstallation' in specially produced showcases, always bear Marta Riniker-Radich's sense of humor and ambiguity. At the same time, the sense of dread that they evoke resonates with us on a personal level, as she addresses an everyday working life that is well known to us, and also reflects on her existence as an artist in a highly competitive environment.

On the 16th of September, to coincide with the opening of the exhibition, Istituto Svizzero will present a performance by Hanne Lippard in the courtyard of the building.

Notes to Editors

Marta Riniker-Radich (born 1982 in Bern, lives and works in Frankfurt am Main) has developed a drawing practice that makes use of very simple means yet is intensified by her use of color and layering techniques. Created in series and made almost exclusively in A4 format with colored pencils, her drawings function as slices of an abstracted reality and interact with works in other media, such as text, objects and site-specific installations, to create larger narratives.

Her projects often stem from specific historical occurrences and situations, such as the California electricity crisis of the late 1990s or the petroleum industry in Texas. These research themes are translated into a network of symbols and fictionalized narratives that highlight the impact of socio-political and economic realities on the development of human behavior. Power structures, both corporate and individual, cronyism, insecurity and regression to childhood are among the themes that emerge in her work.

Marta Riniker-Radich studied at the HEAD in Geneva and has participated in numerous artist residencies (Fieldwork Marfa, Studio Roma/Istituto Svizzero, Landis & Gyr Stiftung in London, among others). Her work has been exhibited internationally and she was the recipient of the Swiss Art Award (2010) and of the Manor Kunstpreis (2016). Recent solo exhibitions include the Swiss Institute, New York, Kunsthhaus Glarus, and Eclair, Berlin.

A food bike by El Caminante will provide food and beverages for purchase according to current health regulations.

Istituto Svizzero

Istituto Svizzero acts as an interdisciplinary platform bringing together artistic and scientific research. From Rome, Milan or Palermo, it facilitates connections both between Switzerland and Italy, as well as internationally. Istituto Svizzero offers residencies to emerging artists and researchers who wish to contribute to the future of art, science and innovation. Each year, the Institute presents a public programme aimed at promoting forward-thinking events and projects, experimental practices and excellence in research. Istituto Svizzero seeks to actively participate in the global discourse on arts and society, envisioning new paths and looking beyond the boundaries of disciplines.