

Ioana Ispas – SPILL

Bizarro,

April 9 – June 1, 2022

Dealing with domestic matters it's hard to tell where we're at. The facial expression of the almost full size human figure cast in acrylic and industrially lacquered, seem spooky, intriguingly shy and superficially witty at the same time. The sculpture invites us into a fictional reality where from one angle the face of the old lady changes into that of a young girl, as you circle around her. Sculpted from a twisted approach to the classical or pulled from some old-fashion fairytale where age and time ain't nothing but a number.

On the wall Ispas has installed 7* handcrafted, transylvanian carpets depicting a patterned representation of nature; items collected from her grandmother and relatives in Romania - some later bought on the internet. Baring an immanent split function of both aesthetic object with imaginative qualities and as a furniture with insulating properties - the embroidered carpets implement an overdosed atmosphere in low resolution. As if the pixelated floral motifs of the outside world predicted the comforting alienation of our current times. The eclectic use of materials creates an interconnection between historical and contemporary conditions, suggesting a manifold narrative. While sharing an apparent relation to the digital, the coarse tactility of the carpets contrast the slick and wet-looking sculpture situated in front of them. The setting creates friction.

SPILL is an installation of caring interest in both personal and cultural narratives that bring together eastern European tapestry tradition and modern sculpture with a notion of design and devotion. Creating a storyline as idiosyncratic and legitimate as those in Aby Warburg's renowned work *The Mnemosyne Atlas*. Less concerned with the isolated object and methodologically more prepared to follow its afterlife.

Crystallizing in a theatrical, almost stage-like scenario where time stands still in a laconic way, Ispas creates a space that weaves together threads and expressions dealing with time, history and tradition. An exhibition that operates without chronological order, where the works keep their ambiguity as they come across as both nomadic and homebound.

Ioana Ispas, born 1994, Cluj, Romania. Lives and works in Copenhagen