



**sculpture garden
geneva biennale
june–september 2022
parc la grange
parc & plage des eaux-vives**

presse release

public opening: june 9, 2022

Curator:
Devrim Bayar

Initiated by artgenève and organized in collaboration with the MAMCO and the City of Geneva, the third edition of the Geneva Biennale *Sculpture Garden* will open on Thursday, June 9, 2022. The exhibition aims to establish itself as a major Swiss Biennale for Contemporary Art, offering Geneva and its many visitors a cultural event of high caliber, accessible to all. The Biennale, which runs throughout the summer and until September 30, forms a path punctuated by numerous artistic projects from the Parc des Eaux-Vives to the Parc La Grange, and the Eaux-Vives beach. The 2022 exhibition is curated by Devrim Bayar, curator at the WIELS contemporary art center in Brussels, who has gathered 26 works, more than half of which are produced expressly for this exhibition.

For its third edition, the Geneva Biennale *Sculpture Garden* focuses on contemporary artists who question our relationships to others and to ourselves in an increasingly unstable environment in which technologies shape our subjectivities. For the past two years, the pandemic has profoundly affected our way of life, disintegrating our physical contacts to give place to dizzying virtual relationships. Although it has atomized us, the virus, inoculating one person after another, has paradoxically proven that we are a globally connected community. Today, a war on the borders of Europe tragically reminds us of the interdependence of our societies, whose economic, political, and military dealings directly impact our daily lives. Against this backdrop of perpetual crisis, large movements for greater social and environmental justice are nevertheless succeeding in mobilizing individuals on a global scale and in promoting alternative ways of living together. These challenges to the dominant discourse and the resulting reconfigurations of our social fabric are major issues in contemporary culture, in which digital technology has taken a prominent role.

The Parc La Grange, Parc des Eaux-Vives and its nearby beach offer privileged spaces to meet and exchange; from reunions with family and friends to sports outings or romantic dates, from reconnecting with nature or with oneself to parties or school excursions. Beyond their recreational character, these spaces are above all shared spaces, where not only affinities but also disparities and divergences are articulated. The artists invited to exhibit in these specific settings investigate the tensions inherent to the public space but also their potential for emancipation. The variety of their proposals—which go beyond the strict domain of sculpture to invest those of design, architecture, video, photography, writing, and more—testifies to the way in which art constantly reinvents itself in light of contemporary challenges.

New productions

Ana Alenso (*1982, VE)
Céline Condorelli (*1974, FR)
Zuzanna Czebatul (*1986, PL)
Liz Deschenes (*1966, US)
Koenraad Dedobbeleer (*1975, BE)
David Douard (*1983, FR)
Jos de Gruyter & Harald Thys (*1965 & 1966, BE)
Gabriel Kuri (*1970, MX)
Daniel Lie (*1988, BR/ID)
Lucy McKenzie (*1977, UK)
Willem Oorebeek (*1953, NL)
Ceylan Öztrük (*1984, TR)
Mathias Pfund (*1992, CH)

Existing works

Douglas Abdell (*1947, US)
Sophia Al-Maria (*1983, QA/US)
Sammy Baloji (*1978, DRC)
Nina Beier (*1975, DK)
Meriem Bennani (*1988, MA)
Charlotte vander Borght (*1988, BE)
Elif Erkan (*1986, TUR)
Alia Farid (*1985, KW)
Manfred Pernice (*1963, DE)
Bojan Šarčević (*1974, FR)
Erika Verzutti (*1971, BR)

Special projects

Axelle Stiefel (*1988, US/CH) with vorstellen.network
Work.Master students of the HEAD–Genève: Mbaye Diop (*1981, SN),
Nicolas Ponce (*1998, CH), Alpha Sy (*1992, SN) and Yul Tomatala (*1993, CH)
with the intervention of Sonia Kacem (*1985, CH/TN)

For more information

sculpturegarden.ch

Press contact

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Zuzanna Czebatul
Macromolecule Exploiting some Biological Target, 2020
 Polyvinyl chloride
 300 × 300 × 150 cm
 Photo: Bert Heinzlmeier
 Courtesy Goethe-Institut



Bojan Šarčević
New Emotional Style, 2020
 Marble block, ice cube machine, ice, sound system, carved marble, limestone, birch wood
 179 × 81 × 169 cm
 Photo: Claire Dorn
 Courtesy the artist & galerie frank elbaz



Sammy Baloji
...and to those North Sea waves whispering sunken stories 1, 2021
 Metal and glass terrarium containing various tropical plants, potting soil, clay pebbles
 223.8 × 230 × 129.6 cm approx.
 Unique
 Exhibition view: Sammy Baloji at Beaufort 21, Zeebrugge, Belgium



Sophia Al-Maria
Taraxos, 2021
 Serpentine × Modern Forms Sculpture Commission
 Courtesy of the artist and Project Native Informant, London
 Photo: Hugo Glendinning



Ana Alenso
Oil Intervention # 7, 2019
 Scaffolding parts, hoses, steel, nickel, diesel nozzle and glass water bottle
 Variable Dimensions
 Photo: Joe Clark



Charlotte vander Borght
MASS II, 2020
 Painted aluminium, metal
 169.5 × 119 × 55 cm



Erika Verzutti
Venus of Cream, 2020,
 Bronze
 210 × 79 cm
 Courtesy of Alison Jacques, London and MISAKO & ROSEN, Tokyo © Erika Verzutti
 Photo: Stuart Whipps 2021



Alia Farid
In Lieu of What Is
 Five sculptures in fiberglass and polyester resin
 Various dimensions
 Unique
 Water Bottle, 2022
 295 × 100 × 100 cm
 Photo: Philipp Hänger / Kunsthalle Basel