

Hana Miletić: Pieces

8.7.–2.10.2022.

Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Krešimirova 26c, Rijeka, Croatia



The solo exhibition of Hana Miletić, one of the internationally most acclaimed young contemporary Croatian artists, is her first major solo institutional exhibition in Croatia. After notable international presentations at both large group and solo exhibitions, such as Kunsthalle Bergen (2021) and WIELS Bruxelles (2018), MMSU will for the first time in Croatia present her new textile artworks.

Pieces, a solo exhibition by Hana Miletić presents an overview of the artist's recent textile installations and brings together brand new commission of works created especially for the exhibition in Rijeka. The exhibition unfolds in a dialogue with the exhibition space and the surrounding context, taking into account its past and present, its original purpose and the transformations which followed.

In her work, Hana Miletić uses textiles and the process of weaving as her main material, incorporating other media and materials as well – photographs, objects, installations and sound – to point to the contexts of individual and social processes of production. Using the methods of “repairing” and recycling as her basic means, the artist creates these soft and light abstract compositions, as places which record and inscribe different meanings, states, feelings, relationships and perspectives – such as fragility or precariousness, as well as attitudes towards time, which show her interest in the history of labor and the transition of industrial modes of production, the position of women in the textile industry, and the consequences of deindustrialization.

With this exhibition, Hana Miletić continues her search for manufacturers and manufacturing sites of Croatia's fast declining textile industry. Large scale textile artworks as the carpet *RAD* (2019), created in collaboration with the Zabok-based Regeneracija factory or the installation *Materials (Arena, Pula)* (2020) serve as a dedication to the places of textile production and its various technologies. During her stay in Rijeka as an artist-in-residence (Kamov residency program), Hana researched Rijeka's former industries, such as tobacco factory once situated in the museum building, the paper mill Hartera and its rag room, as well as the existing local textile industry. *Materials* (2022) are based on urban transformations, permanent or temporary repairs on streets, street furniture, windows of buildings or cars, that Miletić encountered in the city of Rijeka, more specifically in the neighbourhoods of former factories. In collaboration with Rijka textile company Rio Biz d.o.o. and the composer Lieven Dousselaere, Miletić created a new spatial and context-specific installation composed of tailoring scraps.

Curated by: Branka Benčić

Associate curator: Kora Girin

The exhibition is organized in collaboration with Kunsthalle Mainz, opening in October.

Hana Miletić was born in Zagreb (1982), she lives and works in Brussels. Departing from a background in documentary photography, and inspired by the long tradition of handwork in her family, Hana Miletić has developed an artistic language based primarily on the creation of handwoven textile works. She uses the weaving process to reflect on the social and cultural realities in which she lives and works. In her weaving practice, Miletić reproduces public gestures of maintenance and repair, capturing infrastructures and objects in flux, or in various states of transition.

Weaving, which requires practice, time, care and attention, allows her to formulate new relationships between work, thought and the emotional sphere, as well as to counteract certain economic and social conditions at work, such as acceleration, standardisation and transparency. Selection of upcoming and recent solo exhibitions: Kunsthalle Mainz (2022), MUDAM Luxemburg (2022), Bergen Kunsthall (2021), La Loge Brussels (2021), and WIELS Brussels (2018.).

Selection of upcoming and recent group exhibitions: M HKA Antwerp (2022), Manifesta 14 Prishtina (2022), MAXXI L'Aquila (2022), Triangle Astérides Marseille (2022), Muzeum Sztuki Łódź (2021), Kunsthalle Wien (2020), Metro Pictures New York (2019), S.M.A.K. Ghent (2018-2019), and Sharjah Biennial 13 (2017).

Selection of recent artist residencies and prizes: Jan van Eyck Academy Maastricht (2014-2015), Thread – Josef and Anni Albers Foundation, Sinthian (2019), and Baloise Art Prize (2021).

Photo: Materials (Arena, Pula), 2019-2020. Installation view Hana Miletić: Pieces, MMSU 2022 © Damir Žižić



List of works:

***Softwares*, 2018**

650 × 150 × 0,5 cm

double Jacquard-woven textile manipulated by hand (white polyester, white cottolin, cream

cottolin, variegated beige cottolin, variegated off-white wool, ecru viscose and silk, white chenille and taupe mercerized cotton)

***RAD*, 2019**

265 × 177 × 2,5 cm

hand-tufted carpet on industrially-woven tarpaulin (organic natural wool and bleached natural wool)

courtesy of the artist and gallery LambdaLambdaLambda, Priština/Bruxelles

***Incompatibles (Unitas)*, 2020**

160 × 144 × 1 cm

hand-woven textile (variegated cotton, mercerized cotton, silk and viscose)

***Materials (Arena, Pula)*, 2019 – 2020**

200 × 400 × 5 cm

hand-woven and hand-knit textile and repurposed knitwear (black mercerized cotton, black organic cottonlin, black silk, black viscose, turquoise organic cottolin, turquoise yellow mercerized cotton, yellow organic cotton, repurposed black and dark yellow and knitting yarn)

***For the Spiders*, 2021 – 2022**

context specific installation with tailoring scraps from Rio Biz d.o.o. (Riječka industrija odjeće), 4-channel audio installation with weaving sounds, and green light, composed by Lieven Dousselaere

***Materials*, 2018 – 2022**

246,5 x 258 x 2 cm (42 x 50 x 1 cm + 200 x 258 x 2 cm)

handwoven textile (ash grey vegan leather, black organic linen, black peace silk, dark blue organ-ic cottolin, light grey eucalyptus yarn, pale yellow organic cotton, pale yellow raw silk, silver grey mercerised cotton, silver metal yarn, and silver peace silk)

***Materials*, 2022**

42 x 262 x 1 cm (20 x 121 x 1 cm + 10 x 112,5 x 1 cm + 17 x 126 x cm)

handwoven textile (copper recycled polyamide, corn yellow peace silk, cream repurposed polyester, gold metal yarn, gold recycled polyamide, old gold metal yarn, and pale yellow raw silk)

***Materials*, 2022**

34 x 29,5 x 1,5 cm

handknit and handwoven textile (light grey eucalyptus yarn, offwhite peace silk, and silver metal yarn)

Materials, 2022

13 x 44 x 3,5 cm

handwoven textile (red organic cottolin, and white organic cottolin)

Materials, 2022

124 x 261 x 7 cm

handwoven textile (red organic cottolin, and white organic cottolin)

ljubaznošću umjetnice i galerije LambdaLambdaLambda, Priština/Bruxelles

Materials, 2022

64 x 150 x 2 cm

handwoven textile (gold metal yarn, rusted copper paper yarn, and terracotta orange peace silk)

Materials, 2022

47 x 57 x 0,5 cm

handwoven textile (pale grey paper yarn, and silver metal yarn)

Materials, 2022

58 x 30 x 1 cm (11,5 x 17 x 1 cm + 5 x 11 x 1 cm + 12 x 29,5 x 1 cm + 4 x 10 x 1 cm)

handwoven textile (apple green organic cotton, black raw wool, bleached black raw wool, burnt orange raw linnen, dark apricot cotton cord, gold metal yarn, orange milk yarn, pale grey paper yarn, and silver metal yarn)

Materials, 2018 – 2022

14 x 17,5 x 0,5 cm

handwoven textile (black linnen, fern green linnen, grapefruit pink repurposed elastic cord, ma-genta linnen, and magenta recycled wool)

Materials, 2022

57 x 126 x 1 cm (49,5 x 54,5 x 1 cm + 57 x 126 x 1 cm)

handwoven textile (black recycled t-shirt yarn, copper recycled polyamide, cream repurposed polyester, organic cotton, white organic cottolin, and white peace silk)

ljubaznošću umjetnice i galerije The Approach, London

Materials, 2022

23 x 44 x 2 cm

handwoven textile (light grey eucalyptus yarn, silver grey mercerised cotton, silver metal yarn, and silver peace silk)

Materials, 2022

146 x 165 x 4 cm

crocheted and handwoven textile (organic cotton, white organic cotton, and white peace silk)

Materials, 2022

12 x 237,5 x 0,3 cm

handwoven textile with silkscreen print (cream recycled polyamide, offwhite peace silk, offwhite recycled polyamide, and organic cotton)

Materials, 2022

39 x 160 x 2 cm

handwoven textile (azure blue cottolin, basil green repurposed plastic, blue peace silk, cobalt blue repurposed mercerised cotton, deep blue organic cottolin, fern green organic cottolin, grey organic cotton, and light grey eucalyptus yarn)

Materials, 2022

45 x 21,5 x 3 cm

felted, handwoven and Jacquard woven textile (azure blue organic cotton, blue peace silk, cobalt blue repurposed mercerised cotton, magenta mercerised cotton, pale pink raw wool, pink mercerised cotton, and white organic cotton)

Courtesy of the artist, LambdaLambdaLambda, Priština / Bruxelles and The Approach
London.