

## Press Release

At the heart of the exhibition "(I don't know how much) I need you" is Esther Kläs' genuine interest in social dynamics, relationships, perceptions and thinking. In short: the complex repertoire of interpersonal interaction. Esther Kläs is well aware of the often abstract, intangible nature of communication between individuals and the community. The five sculptures in the exhibition "(I don't know how much) I need you" are based on the concept that we are all social beings. The materials, composed of water-soluble resin mixed with pigments are similar, but the colors ranging from blue to yellow, and orange to green, form a complex spectrum of various visual forms. Each sculpture is made up of two parts. Both elements lean and support each other, while sticks of different lengths brace the respective ensemble. One follows an abstract network of relationships of the most diverse interdependencies. What is certain is that they need each other, but it is not always clear exactly what or how much is needed. The existence and knowledge of this personal vulnerability in relation to the others and vice versa is central to Esther Kläs' new group of sculptures. Similar to her sculptures, which are open systems that makes social structures visible in abstraction, Esther Kläs' drawings are also expressions of direct reaction, because they too are characterized by dynamism, movement and the fundamental openness and structural interdependencies at their core. Because it is always about the question of what we need from others and the realization that this exchange is constantly changing.

### Biographical Note:

Esther Kläs was born in Germany in 1981. From 2001 to 2007 she studied at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf and from 2008-2010 at Hunter College in New York City, where she lived until 2015. She currently lives and works in Barcelona. Her works can be found in institutional collections such as the Kolumba Museum Cologne, the Kunsthalle Bielefeld, the collection of the Bundesnachlass Deutschland and Maxxi - National Museum of 21st Century Arts in Rome. Recent solo exhibitions were at the CCA, Tel Aviv (2019) and at the Fondazione Giuliani Rome (2020). Previous solo exhibitions include "Better Energy", MoMA PS1, New York (2012), "Girare ConTe", Museo Marino Marini, Florence, Italy (2014), "Our Reality", Fondazione Brodbeck, Catania, Italy (2015) and "Whatness" (with Johannes Wald), Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Germany (2015). Her works were recently shown in the exhibition "The subtle interplay between the I and the me. Art and Choreography" at Kolumba Museum Cologne (2021) and in the exhibition "Afterimage", MAXXI L'Aquila - Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo, Italy. A comprehensive catalog will be published by ZOLO PRESS, 2024.