

Museum Brandhorst | September 6, 2024

## **Maria VMier: “no: tongue breaks and thin fire is racing under skin”**

September 3–15, 2024, on the upper level of the museum

A context-specific intervention by the artist Maria VMier occupies the center of Cy Twombly’s Roses Gallery on the upper floor of Museum Brandhorst. In this project, the artist, who lives between New York and Munich, questions the possibilities of an erotic, community-building appropriation of the museum.

Created over a period of more than four years (2020 – 2024) and in collaboration with many Companions, the project manifests itself in research, texts, paintings, performances, gatherings, objects, and a textile intervention. A woven work, created in collaboration with textile artist Evelyn Sitter, stretches across the room like a tent. Sitter’s hand-woven and hand-dyed strips engage in a dialogue with the painterly gesture in VMier’s floor drawing and Twombly’s roses, which he created especially for the museum. In this location characterized by relationships of desire and power, VMier, as an artist, requests a protected space for exchange. However, such a forum is not typically provided within the museum’s strictly regulated institutional structures. This gathering is thus symbolically represented through a feminist interpretation of Plato’s Symposium.

The title, “no: tongue breaks and thin fire is racing under skin,” comes from a poem by Sappho, the most famous poet of ancient Greece, translated by Anne Carson. Various performative readings by museum staff will take place during the exhibition. In a final unveiling ceremony by the performer @nnast\_antn, Sappho becomes the host. In a playful and sensual encounter with the symbolic charge and traditional codes of the museum, she traverses the heteropatriarchal relationship between gaze, body, power, and desire.

**Curated by:** Franziska Linhardt

**Curatorial assistant:** Zakirah Rabaney

**Saturday, September 7, 2024, 12 noon**

**Curator tour: Dialog on Maria VMier – Museum Brandhorst x Pinakothek der Moderne**

Cross-venue guided tour with curators Franziska Linhardt and Judith Csiki through “no: tongue breaks and thin fire is racing under skin” at Museum Brandhorst and “UNRUHE. Hans Hartung und Maria VMier” at the Pinakothek der Moderne. The tour starts in the foyer of Museum Brandhorst.

**Sunday, September 15, 2024, 5 p.m.**

**Performance: “desire moves. eros is a verb. a ceremony of dismantling” by @nnast\_antn**

The performance by artist @nnast\_antn starts in Cy Twombly’s Roses Gallery on the upper level of the museum, proceeds through the institution and out onto the street.

**About Maria VMier**

Maria VMier is an artist who lives and works in Munich and New York. Their multidisciplinary practice encompasses context-specific and collaborative work as well as sculpture, painting and printmaking. In their works, they deal with the body and desire and the associated post-feminist, social, and political implications. Recurring motifs are the conditions of artistic labor, hospitality, care work, and community. The central site of form-finding is their ongoing "Companion" series, in which they create large-format paintings on paper.

Since 2013, VMier co-runs the publishing house for artists' books Hammann von Mier-Verlag together with Stefanie Hammann, and since 2017 they have been collaborating with Leo Heinik and Jan Erbeling in the collective Ruine München. VMier was on the committee of the municipal art space FLORIDA Lothringer 13 from 2019 until 2022 and was also part of the exhibition jury of the BBK Munich and Upper Bavaria between 2017 and 2020. Their work has been shown at MoMA PS1, New York (2024), Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich (2024), Museum Brandhorst, Munich (2024, 2022), BOAN Artspace, Seoul (2020), Lenbachhaus, Munich (2020), Haus der Kunst, Munich (2013), among others. Their work, whether solo or in collaboration, has been honored with numerous awards, including the Bavarian Art Promotion Prize for Fine Arts and the FLAT Prize of the CRT Art Foundation in Turin.

**We look forward to your coverage.**

#MuseumBrandhorst

**Press contact**

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