

Sally von Rosen

Sotto voce

October 5th - November 7th

In *Sotto voce*, von Rosen revisits sculptural excerpts and drawings from her earlier exhibition *MAIN BODY*. The solo show at Trauma Bar und Kino during Berlin Art Week 2023 marked a pivotal shift in her practice, where body-like sculptures were, for the first time, assembled into a collective - a mass that transformed these figures from isolated fragments into monumental pillars, blurring the boundary between life and objecthood. Drawing on Jane Bennett's concept of "thing-power" - the idea that objects possess their own agency and influence - von Rosen highlights that objects are not merely tools for human action but exert their own force. Her body fragments emerge as independent agents, vibrating with their own material presence.

Sotto voce, meaning "under the voice," refers to something softly spoken, not intended to be overheard. It captures a subtle yet powerful interplay of breath, vibration, and resonance - much like von Rosen's sculptures, which explore the tension between silence and physical presence.

The sculpture *Sinous*, with its twisted body and ambiguous movement, seems to be walking in two directions at once. It exemplifies where the evolution of von Rosen's sculptures stands today. Positioned alongside a painting that echoes its form while reclining on a draped chair, and automatic drawings inspired by Hieronymus Bosch's surreal worlds, *Sinous* encapsulates the artist's ongoing exploration of fragmented, mutating bodies and their inherent agency. Rather than turning existential questions inward, *Sinous* invites us to consider these evolving forms - always shifting, always becoming.

Text by Karoline Franka Foldager

Sally von Rosen (b. 1994 in Gothenburg, Sweden) currently lives and works in Berlin. Her most recent solo show AT ODDS was held at WENTRUP, Berlin (2023); other solo exhibitions include MAIN BODY, curated by Madalina Stanescu and Juliet Kothe, Trauma Bar und Kino, Berlin (2023) and AUGURIES OF INNOCENCE; MEGA Foundation, Stockholm (2023). Von Rosen's most recent Live Performances include PREMIUM ECONOMY by Anna Uddenberg at Art Basel Unlimited, Basel (2024), and Kunsthalle Mannheim, Mannheim (2023). Recent group exhibitions include The Armory Show, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, New York (2024); STREET SPACE BANGER, curated by Tick Tack, Kunsthalle Recklinghausen, Recklinghausen (2024); and RHIZOME - NETWORK WITHOUT CENTRE POINT, curated by Seolhui Lee, Kunsthall Aarhus, Aarhus (2024).