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Sophie Hirsch YUCK MY YUM



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Zeller van Almsick is pleased to present Yuck my Yum, the first solo exhibition at the gallery by Austrian-born artist Sophie Hirsch. Known for her materially astute and conceptually layered practice, Hirsch returns to her native city with an immersive installation that quietly unsettles the architecture of the familiar.

Unfolding on an intimate, domestic scale, Yuck my Yum resists comfort and legibility. Sculptural forms once

recognizable—bastardized medical equipment, distorted nods to modernist furniture—now appear absorbed into their surroundings. In contrast to earlier presentations, where Hirsch offered anchoring references—living rooms, waiting rooms, clinical spaces—this exhibition eschews metaphor for sensation. Her materials speak with new subtlety and specificity. Railing, used prominently throughout the installation, is not a neutral element. It evokes both touch and restraint, functioning simultaneously as aid and boundary. Its soft edges suggest safety—designed to do no harm—yet outside of a public or institutional context, it takes on a more clinical, almost sterile charge. These sculptural gestures, once brightly colored and declarative, are now absorbed into a muted, contused palette. Rather than guiding the viewer, they implicate them, becoming part of an architecture that must be physically and psychologically traversed.

The title, Yuck my Yum—a colloquial phrase used to mock or undermine another's pleasure—serves as a conceptual entry point. Hirsch confronts the vulnerability of desire, investigating how longing, comfort, and softness can be destabilized or ridiculed. Rather than sidestep this discomfort, she leans into it, constructing a world where gratification is deferred, and the act of wanting becomes its own complex, unresolved condition.

All images: Courtesy of the artist and Zeller van Almsick Photo credit: kunst-dokumentation.com

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 1.jpg: Passage, 2025 Stainless steel, fascia balls 283 x 295 x 230 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 2.jpg: Yuck my yum, 2025 Installation view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 3.jpg: Passage, 2025 Stainless steel, fascia balls Detail view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 4.jpg: Passage, 2025 Stainless steel, fascia balls Detail view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 5.jpg: Yuck my yum, 2025 Installation view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 6.jpg: Passage, 2025 Stainless steel, fascia balls Detail view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 7.jpg: Yuck my yum, 2025 Installation view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 8.jpg: Yuck my yum, 2025 Installation view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 9.jpg: P-UP, 2025 Stainless steel 90 x 188 x 86 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 10.jpg: P-UP, 2025 Stainless steel 90 x 188 x 86 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 11.jpg: P-UP, 2025 Stainless steel Detail Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 12.jpg: P-UP, 2025 Stainless steel Detail

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 13.jpg: Yuck my yum #3 & #4, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 69 x 44 x 5 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 14.jpg: Yuck my yum #3, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 69 x 44 x 5 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA_15.jpg: Yuck my yum #4, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 69 x 44 x 5 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 16.jpg: Yuck my yum, 2025 Installation view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 17.jpg: Yuck my yum #1 & #2, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 38 x 32 x 5 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 18.jpg: Yuck my yum #1, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 38 x 32 x 5 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 19.jpg: Yuck my yum #1, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel Detail

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 20.jpg: Yuck my yum #2, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 38 x 32 x 5 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 21.jpg: Yuck my yum, 2025 Installation view

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 22.jpg: Stimulation, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 310 x 221 x 69 cm Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 23.jpg: Stimulation, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel Detail

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 24.jpg: Stimulation, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel Detail

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 25.jpg: Stimulation, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel Detail

Sophie-Hirsch_ZvA_26.jpg: Stimulation, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel Detail

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 27.jpg: Stimulation, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel Detail

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 28.jpg: Yuck my yum #5, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 91 x 55 x 10 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 29.jpg: Yuck my yum #5, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 91 x 55 x 10 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA 30.jpg: Yuck my yum #7, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel 69 x 44 x 5 cm

Sophie-Hirsch ZvA_31.jpg: Yuck my yum #7, 2025 Silicone, fabric, stainless steel Detail