

Virgin Plastic

19th July – 23rd August 2025

Hazenstraat 20, 1016SP Amsterdam
Martin van Zomeren Gallery

Virgin plastic is new, unused plastic material created from resin produced from natural gas or crude oil. These plastics have not been blended with scrap, waste, or previously used material.

Although made of repurposed material, the works in this exhibition carry an element of "virgin plasticity".

They are items you have seen before in different contexts, some more recognisable than others. But now, they have been moved into an environment where you are expected to engage with them differently.

This engagement becomes a provocation of the artwork's plasticity.

Whether you "get it" or not is beside the point. The fear of not understanding often stunts people's engagement, limiting the potential of ideas, emotions, and conversation to come about.

The catalyst for polarisation is a world where the length of engagement and conversation is declining. The quick and mindless swiping left and right, up and down across axes, consumes us. We are made to feel like we are in control of what we see, and what we make familiar to ourselves. That there is a choice involved.

When really the choice to make is whether to look for a second time, engage, and question what we are familiar with.

Now read this again!

/Mabel Woodley