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Maithu Bui

Operation Remediation
21 November 2025 – 31 January 2026
Opening 20 November, 6–9 pm

Press release

Shahin Zarinbal is delighted to present *Operation Remediation*, Maithu Bui's first solo exhibition with the gallery.

Utilising materiality and composition, Bui creates a field that traces complex genealogies of violence, technology, and nature. The installation on the floor juxtaposes mushroom sculptures and metal objects: small pots and flat cylindrical film-reel cases, as well as moulds that oscillate between the appearance of fruit and explosives.

In Quang Tri Province, one of the most mine-affected areas in Vietnam, a project called *Mushrooms with a Mission* provided survivors of UXO (unexploded ordnance) who had lost their limbs with mycelium bags to grow and farm mushrooms to earn a living.

Further, Bui presents a series of punched cards, arranged in a grid on the wall. The pattern is periodically interrupted by deliberate gaps, echoing the form of the punched card itself on a larger scale. These cards – originally invented in 1890 by Herman Hollerith for the United States Census Bureau for data processing and later used by the Nazis for censuses to systematically calculate and record population data – are visualised by Bui as a technology that turns combinations of holes and numbers into operations. Containing text that informs, commemorates, and asks critical questions about present and past conjunctures, the cards draw attention to a history of violence through a system that encodes, organises, and enacts it.

Biography

Maithu Bui is a Berlin-based artist who develops research-driven installations, videos, and immersive digital environments that examine and translate entanglements of life, history, science, and technology into landscapes of collective memory. Their practice often investigates how histories of war, colonialism, and migration are encoded into contemporary sensor technologies and the mundane. Engaging both personal and collective memory, Bui draws from histories, cosmologies, and diasporic experiences as frameworks for resisting dominant techno-political narratives. Their projects foreground ethical and political questions, making visible the consequences of technological development

on various life forms, particularly in contexts of conflict and displacement. Through this interdisciplinary approach, their practice proposes new modes of remembrance and critical engagement with technological systems that shape the present.

Maithu Bui holds a BA in Philosophy with a focus on Philosophy of Language and Logic from LMU Munich, as well as an MFA in Fine Arts from UdK Berlin. Bui was a 2024 Human Machine Fellow at Akademie der Künste, a 2025 Dreaming Beyond AI – Coalition Building in Times of AI Fellow, and a 2025 recipient of the Stiftung Kunstfond stipend. Their work has been presented at Spreepark Art Space, Berlin (2025), E-WERK x Akademie der Künste, Berlin (2025), Contemporary Art Centre Vilnius (2025), Museum der bildenden Künste Leipzig (2025), Galerie im Turm, Berlin (2024), Kunsthalle Bratislava (2023), Bundeskunsthalle Bonn (2023), and the 12th Berlin Biennale (2022), among others. Their work has been featured in Camera Austria (2025). Bui co-founded the research collective Curating through Conflict with Care (CCC) and the working group art+computation at the Gesellschaft für Informatik. Bui lives and works in Berlin, Germany.