

Kunstverein Harburger Bahnhof

Julia Schulze-Darup
Erratic Behaviour
21.3. – 3.5.2026

Curated by Tobias Peper

Press Release

Hamburg, 15.03.2026

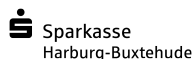
Kunstverein Harburger Bahnhof is pleased to present a new exhibition by Julia Schulze-Darup in its showcase spaces. Through sculpture and installation, Schulze-Darup examines the psychological and bodily dynamics that shape identity within systems of heredity, socialization, and dependency. Combining materials that simultaneously support and resist one another, the artist creates fragile constellations in which intimacy, control, and estrangement become physically tangible.

Julia Schulze Darup examines influences passed down through heredity and socialization in family systems. By combining conflicting materials, she creates moments that negotiate fusion and individuality. Her starting point is often schematic representations of biological processes, which she retranslates into concrete forms as sculptures and installations.

For her exhibition in the showcases, Schulze Darup examines the parasite-host relationship between horsehair worms and praying mantises. The parasites infiltrate the mantises' bodies unnoticed in order to feed on them and take control through genetic manipulation. This results in mental heteronomy, which manifests itself in the host's erratic and confused behavior. Only separation, the identification of the intruder, can protect the locust from the danger it generates within itself.

The artist translates this dynamic into materials that relate to one another in a symbiotic yet antagonistic manner, seemingly wrestling with one another. Although the ceramic elements weigh down the fabric and dictate its flow, the fabric resists through its own structure. It folds, buckles, and reveals scars. The installation continues like a cycle across the boundaries of the individual display cases. The sequence is interrupted by a torso-sized ceramic sculpture that, like a relic, points to inner conflicts—between injury and healing, as well as emptiness and vitality.

The exhibition is kindly supported by the Sparkasse Harburg-Buxtehude.



The program of the Kunstverein is made possible by the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg.



Please address press inquiries to nikolas.geier@kvhbf.de



1_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
Julia Schulze-Darup,
Erratic Behavior, 2026,
Installation view at Kunstverein Harburger
Bahnhof, courtesy of the artists,
photo: Maik Gräf



2_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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Installation view at Kunstverein Harburger
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3_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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4_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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5_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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6_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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7_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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8_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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9_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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10_KVHBF_Julia SchulzeDarup_2026_Maik Gräf
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