

Winnie Mo Rielly

“It is beautiful, my new, protruding spine. For the first time I understand what it means to love your own body.” Mariana Enriquez, *A Sunny Place for Shady People*, Random House, 2024.

Born in London in 1993, Winnie Mo Rielly lives and works in Paris. She combines photography, sculpture, and performance art to explore a dual interest in domestic spaces and bodies in motion. In her work, experiences of forced proximity are, counter-intuitively, transformed into opportunities for intimacy.

Working in her studio, the artist usually begins by taking pictures of herself, creating a dynamic if fragmentary record of her body. Serving as a sort of “skin,” the resulting images are stretched over supporting shapes that evoke organic forms. These objects, however, exceed or reconfigure the formal and volumetric qualities of the human body, which is never represented in its entirety in Rielly’s work. Yet, all these fragments echo one another in a meaningful way, also hinting at a greater, more substantial presence.

Rising to the occasion of her first solo show at a museum in Paris, Winnie Mo Rielly has designed an immersive installation that takes over the MEP’s Studio gallery with a mix of recent and brand-new pieces. The artist creates an environment whose ambiguous character reflects that of the pictured bodies. Definitive identification remains elusive: in a way, the Studio turns into an “anti-space” where familiar points of reference lose some of their sharpness, in the same way a commonplace scene might feel eerie on a theater stage. Rielly’s photographic sculptures—or sculptural photographs—coexist in an atmosphere of quiet tension: rather than a linear narrative, the presentation offers a fragmented, re-composed experience in and of itself. The point is to take our time, so as to really look at the works of art, move between and around them, and make space for them to speak. What is at stake in Winnie Mo Rielly’s work is the possibility of an enhanced body, exceeding its own boundaries and seemingly expanding into space, matter, and images themselves.

A graduate of  cole Duperr  (Paris), Central Saint Martins (London), and  cole Nationale Sup rieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris—where she was the recipient of several awards and honors, including the Fondation de France’s Multimedia Award. The intimacy suggested in Winnie Mo Rielly’s practice is at the heart of her multidisciplinary work. Through figurative representation, Winnie places the body at the forefront, where it is exhibited and experienced. Her works intertwine a mapping of documented bodily movements with diverse perceptions of space.

Winnie presents her first institutional solo exhibition at the Maison Europ enne de la Photographie (MEP) in Paris June-July 2026.

The artist was awarded the contemporary art grant FoRTE, by  le-de-France Region and the Adagp Connexion France grant. Her work is currently exhibited at the gallery Hussenot in Paris, Alkinois in Athens, and sissi Club in Marseille from November. Recent group exhibitions include Frac Les R serves, Miart (Milan fair), Essais, Chateau La Coste, Th  tre National de Chaillot, Galerie Sans Titre, Th  tre des Expositions des Beaux-Arts de Paris, Magasins G n raux, Galerie Balice Hertling, Les Rencontres d’Arles, La Fondation Fiminco, and Camden Art Centre (UK). Her works are held in the collections of FRAC Ile-de-France, Dior, Soci t  G n rale, and Chaumet.

By Clothilde Morette, curator of exhibition Infractuosit  & director of exhibitions of the MEP

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« Ma nouvelle colonne vert brale saillante est si belle. Pour la premi re fois je comprends ce que signifie aimer son corps. » Mariana Enriquez, *Un lieu ensoleill  pour personnes sombres*, 2025,  ditions du Sous-sol

Artiste vivant et travaillant   Paris - France, Winnie Mo Rielly (n e   Londres, R-U en 1993) d veloppe depuis plusieurs ann es une pratique qui m le photographie, sculpture et performance. Par son travail, elle s'int resse   l'espace habit  et aux corps en mouvement, cette proximit  subie qu'elle transforme, paradoxalement, en lieu d'intimit .

Dans son atelier, Rielly enregistre des  clats de son propre corps en mouvement par le biais de la photographie. Ces images sont ensuite trait es comme une peau venant recouvrir des objets (sortes de ch ssis aux formes organiques) qui  tendent les capacit s du corps et reconfigurent la mani re dont se d ploient formes et volumes. Le corps n'y est jamais donn  en entier mais par fragments, dans une logique d' cho o  chaque bribe renvoie   une pr sence plus vaste.

  l'occasion de sa premi re exposition personnelle dans une institution mus ale parisienne, Winnie Mo Rielly investit l'espace du Studio avec une installation immersive m lant  uvres r alis es ces derni res ann es et nouvelles productions. L'environnement qu'elle propose joue sur la m me ambigu t  que ses corps expos s : il r siste   une identification formelle et devient une sorte de contre-espace o  les rep res habituels se brouillent l g rement,   la mani re d'un d cor de th  tre o  le familier devient  trange. Ses sculptures photographiques (ou ses photographies sculpturales) y coexistent dans une tension tranquille. L'exposition ne d livre pas de r cit continu : elle propose plut t une exp rience de la fragmentation et de la recomposition. Il s'agit de prendre le temps de voir, de tourner autour des  uvres, de laisser les surfaces parler. Ce que Winnie Mo Rielly met en regard, c'est la possibilit  d'un corps  largi qui d borde ses propres contours et semble se prolonger dans l'espace, la mati re et l'image.

Form e   l' cole Duperr ,   la Central Saint Martins   Londres et   l' cole Nationale Sup rieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris, o  elle re oit plusieurs prix et nominations dont le prix multim dia d cern  par la Fondation de France, Rielly est laur ate du prix d'art contemporain de la bourse FoRTE de la R gion IDF en 2023. Elle a particip    de nombreuses expositions collectives dont le Frac  le-de-France / Les R serves, Th  tre National de Chaillot, la Galerie Balice Hertling, Les Rencontres de la photographie d'Arles, La Fondation Fiminco et le Camden Art Center (Grande-Bretagne). Ses  uvres font partie de collections telles que FRAC  le-de-France / Le Plateau, Christian Dior Parfums, La Soci t  G n rale, La Maison Chaumet.

Par Clothilde Morette, curatrice de l'exposition *Infractuosit * & directrice des expositions de la MEP
Collaboratrice curatoriale - Tiffany Dornoy Rezaei

<https://www.mep-fr.org/event/winnie-mo-rielly/>