

Polvere domestica

20.02 – 20.03.26

solo exhibition by Muzi

EN The exhibition *Polvere domestica*, literally "domestic dust" in Italian, is a proposal by Muzi that speaks to everyday life and intimacy, to our relationship with things and living beings, and to the way we inhabit the world — between attachment, dependency, and responsibility.

Muzi, Matilde Soldati, is an artist from Ticino based in Biel/Bienne whose practice centers on installation and sculpture. Her commitment to discovering materials, to making them speak, and to foregrounding their value lies at the core of her process. Muzi's work carries a distinct conceptual dimension, meticulously merging the intentions of her thinking — often infused with poetic visions that interact with the world and unsettle perception — with the practical choices that shape her works. Her creations tease oppositions, play with the senses, and embody figures that are at once conceptual and material.

In this exhibition, dust — and in particular the dog hair of her canine life companion, Daisy — is taken as an object of thought. Here, it is imagined as a trace of interspecies cohabitation, shaped by love, dependency, and at times silent suffering. Dust accumulates, is gathered, clusters together; it is always there, unseen yet visible, as visible as it is invisible. We cohabit and interact with it daily, both willingly and unwillingly; it lingers in the corners of rooms, atop cupboards, and behind the books on every shelf. It constitutes an intimate, secret relationship, yet one that carries negative connotations in society.

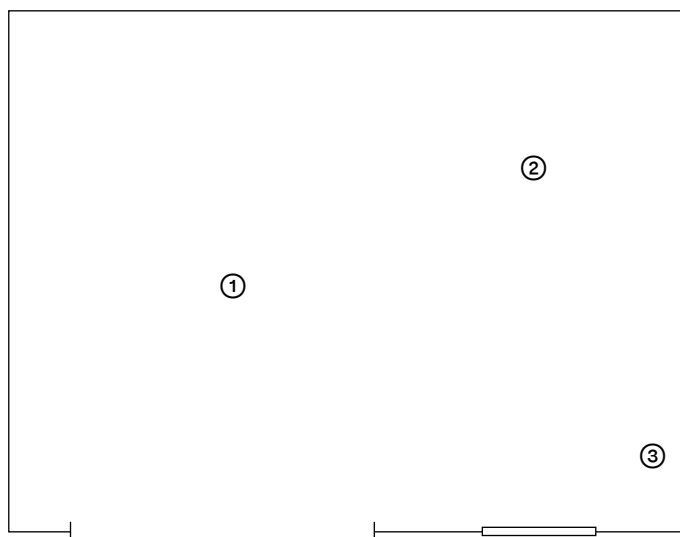
For Muzi, dust holds strong symbolic potential in relation to our rapport with objects and to our relationships — between humans and animals — with whom we share our spaces and our vulnerabilities. Her proposal seeks to question what we believe we know or understand about the other, to challenge our codified modes of functioning, and to foster a shift in perception in order to revalue what surrounds us.

The exhibition also interrogates domestication and the notion of home, of the house. These terms, codified and ambiguous, resonate together in their social ambivalence: on one hand representing safety, protection, intimacy, and love; on the other, imprisonment, control, and possession. It is a constant tension between dominating and being dominated, between attachment and confinement.

Conceptually, the exhibition aims to reflect on our ways of living and cohabiting with other living beings, to unsettle habitual perspectives beyond the constraints of social codes. The desire to lose one's bearings, brought about through the artist's practical choices, invites the public to take a position and to shift perspective regarding their own place within dynamics of power, care, and coexistence. There is a certain beauty in this unstable equilibrium.

Supported by Pro Helvetia, City of Biel, Canton of Bern
& Burgergemeinde Bern. Thank you!

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- ① Untitled, 2026
238 × 163 × 68 cm
Wire mesh and chains
- ② Untitled, 2025–2026
29 × 36 × 23 cm
Dog hair (Daisy), wood and asphalt
- ③ Untitled, 2025–2026
Variable dimensions
Bronze offcuts