



Summer exhibitions  
at Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art

You are welcome to join us on the afternoon of Sunday, May 26th 2019 to the opening reception of the summer exhibitions program at Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art in Rotterdam, which features:

**Mariana Castillo Deball, a solo exhibition**

This solo exhibition presents three distinct kinds of work—and worlds—created by Castillo Deball in the past decade. They strike a balance between material folds and unfolding ideas, whereby multiple senses of time are experienced in the blank spaces of a drawing, in the negative space of sculpture, or in the wrinkles of a surface. For years, Castillo Deball’s work has consistently manifested the ways in which the passage of time is illustrated, organized, and expressed in nature as much as in artifice.

**Melike Kara, new work**

For this first institutional presentation of her work in Europe, Melike Kara has created a new body of work, including a series of large works on canvas, as well as an installation of wooden sculptures intervened upon with paint and other materials. Of significant importance to Kara’s practice is the ongoing artistic exploration of her Kurdistan cultural background, guided by the understanding that knowledge is produced through rituals and oral histories, and that these processes lend new meanings to objects and encounters.

**Cecilia Vicuña, a retrospective exhibition**

This exhibition brings together over a hundred works by the poet, visual artist, and activist Cecilia Vicuña. Since the 1960s, the artist has constituted a radical perspective on the relationship between art and politics through her writing and art making. For the exhibition organized by Witte de With and developed by guest curator Miguel A. López, a number of artworks, documents, and ephemera are presented for the first time.

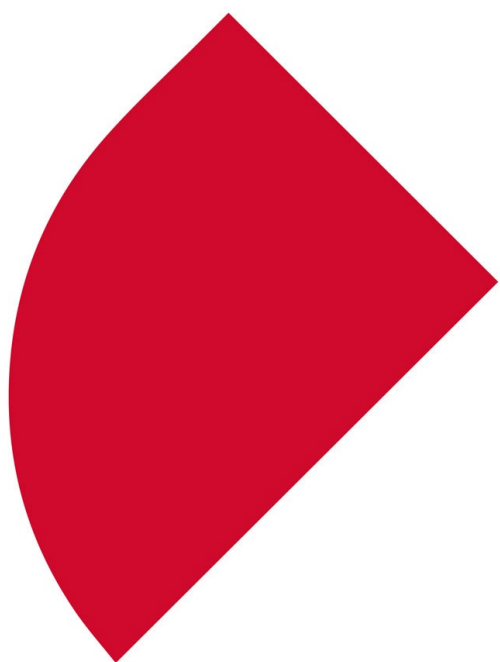
Accompanying the exhibition is the publication *Cecilia Vicuña: Seehearing the Enlightened Failure* edited by López and published by Witte de With. It brings together new and existing essays on Vicuña’s work, and an anthology of diverse texts authored by the artist.

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These exhibitions are organized by Witte de With’s director, Sofia Hernández Chong Cuy, and its team: Samuel Saelemakers, curator; Rosa de Graaf, associate curator; Wendy van Slagmaat-Bos, production officer. A series of public programs are organized in conjunction to the exhibitions. Please visit our [calendar](#) for more information.

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A press pack with images for all exhibitions and biographies for all participating artists can be downloaded [here](#). For press requests or for further information, please contact Jeroen Lavèn via [press@wdw.nl](mailto:press@wdw.nl) or call +31 10 411 01 44.



Witte de With  
Center for Contemporary Art  
Witte de Withstraat 50  
NL-3012 BR Rotterdam

Open: Tue–Sun, 11 am–6 pm  
Fri, 6–9 pm, Kunstavond, free  
entrance

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Images: Cecilia Vicuña, *Angel de la Menstruación*, 1973, courtesy the artist.; Mariana Castillo Deball, *Para qué me diste las manos llenas de color, todo lo que toque se llenará de sol*, 2018, pigment on plaster, site specific dimensions, courtesy of the artist.; Melike Kara, *I hear the tongues*, 2019, oil sticks and acrylic on canvas, 200 x 280 cm, courtesy of the artist and Peres Projects.

Founded in 1990, Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art presents a changing program of art commissions and exhibitions, educational initiatives and events, as well as publications that range from artist’s books to catalogs to web-based editorial platforms.

Recently, the institution has been examining the origins and limitations of its name. The current consideration of our institution’s name is part of a wider discussion on decolonizing in the Netherlands. Our institution was originally named after its street, which, for its part, was named in 1871 after the seventeenth century naval officer Witte Corneliszoon de With.

To read more about this, [click here](#).

Witte de With is supported by the city of Rotterdam and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

CECILIA VICUÑA, a retrospective exhibition is supported by Institute for Studies on Latin American Art (ISLAA), Directorate of Cultural Affairs (DIRAC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Chile, Embassy of Chile in The Hague – the Netherlands and The Henry Moore Foundation.

MELIKE KARA, new work is supported by AMMODO, the Goethe-Institut, PERES PROJECTS, and Jan Kaps. MARIANA CASTILLO DEBALL, a solo exhibition is supported by AMMODO, kurimanzutto, and Mendes Wood DM.