



Bénédicte LOICHEMOL

Visual Artist

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Siret number: 809 633 340 00025

Age 38, living in Montpellier (France)

Master of Art 2015 - Fine arts Aix-en-Provence

Bachelor of Communication 2003 - Fine arts
Nantes

Preparatory class, La Villa Saint-Clair, 2002

Action Art

I WANNA BE YOUR DOLL

Artist in residence project 'I wanna be your doll', Fablab Montaigne (France) 2017

Creation of the porcelain doll suit with the ceramic artist Julie Lebreton. 3D technology workshop and experiments of the porcelain technics, including sculpture and molding.

Performance Doll II - Montpellier-Nantes-Tunis, 2015-2016

Creation of the embroidered doll suit by Veronique Damart. Performance project at Les Salins du Midi (Aigues-Mortes, France), and at Les Salins Cotusal (Zarzis, Tunisia).

Performance de longue durée Doll I - Montpellier-Nantes-Blönduós, 2013-2015

Video performance and sound installations. Blind walks through the icelandic landscapes.

Artist in residence project 'I wanna be your doll', textile art center of Blönduós (Iceland) 2011

Collective manufacturing of the doll's costume/suit knitted in France and in Iceland. Research work about dolls and learning of knitting techniques. Video documentation about rural activities of southern icelandic breeders

MARSHMALLOW SEX

Manufacturing of a chechia for the free tunisian woman-Kerkennah (Tunisia), 2011-2015

Collaborative work with Fatima, a kerkenian embroiderer. From the greek 'calotte', a chechia is the national headgear which is traditionally worn by men, but knitted by women. After I ordered a white chechia (the hijab colour) to an artist of the souk in Tunis ; I proposed Fatima to decorate the hat with an embroidered hibiscus flower which I eventually transformed into a female vulva.

The chechia, freedom symbol during the jasmines' revolution, therefore becomes here the symbol of woman's power in answer to the precarious status of tunisian women. As an echo to their situation, I developed in parallel the close link with my own experience of the male domination .

Long term performance- Sidi Bou Saïd (Tunisia) 2011

I picked faded hibiscus flowers everyday to put it in my bed. During this ritual act, I created an analogy between the hibiscus flower (from the greek Malva, known as Mallow), the marshmallow sweet and the female sex in a magical ritual that would conquer infertility. The twisted corollas are threaded to form a rosary dedicated to the cult of woman's pleasure.

OVERROSE

Performance - Montpellier, Jardin des plantes, 2011

Kneeling in the grass, I swallow a bunch of roses until it suffocates me. This action was inspired from a photographic stage setting where a couple dies from an absurd situation. After quarreling with her boyfriend, a young woman decides to swallow the bunch of flowers he just offered to her. As she eats and swallows the flowers, the young man convulses and sprays of flower petals spurt out of his mouth until both characters die. This work relates to love alienation experienced as a spell.

Photography

JACQUES' DOLL

Photographies directed in association with Jacques Fournel, photographer, Sète 2011-2016

Research work on the image of the doll and on woman's body.

PAULA'S DOLL

Photographies made on my demand by tourists on the island of Kerkennah, 2012

Handmade stained pictures by the Monder laboratory, Tunis 2012

In 2012, I moved to the house of a friend's grandmother in Brussels. Paula Khemps had died a year before ; she was running a clothing family workshop where I discovered a collection of dresses. I decided to alterate it to my own size and to become her doll, her dressmaker's dummy while I traveled in Tunisia.



Director

Experimental film

MUGGA, 2011-2017

A young woman turns into a woolen doll after a violent break-up. She leaves to Iceland where she meets Johanna, the manager of a textile art center and also sheep breeder, who accepts to adopt her in her flock.

With the financial support of the BIJ (Brussels) and the regional council of Occitanie Midi-Pyrénées

JOHANNA

Archive film about the collective manufacture of the doll's outfit during my project of artist- in-residence, Blonduos , Iceland 2011

Research work on the northern icelandic rural breeders and on the textile heritage: Akur farm, Textilsetur (Textile Art Center), Myndlistaskolinn (Art & crafts school), Storkurinn (Handcrafts union), Icelandic knitters, ISTEK, Alafoss, Nes Art residency (Skagaströnd), SIM residency (Reykjavik)

Video Art

MARSHMALLOW SEX, 2010-2012

A young woman picks up faded flowers every day to put it in her bed, hoping this ritual will bring her love.

Video documentation : meetings with embroiderers and associations militating in favour of tunisian women's rights. Prospection on textiles'arts domains and territories: Unesco heritage-listed embroideries of Kerkennah.

With the help of cultural institutions and craftsmen's cooperatives (Tunis, Sfax, Kerkennah) Dream City (Laroussa project), French Cultural Institute, Junior Chamber of Economy, The National Organisation for the Craft Industry, Seribrod, Tunisian Women Association for Culture and

Development, Manouba University, Sfax Cultural's Home, Kerkenatiss.

Publication

JEAN-MARIE Magazine

Journal d'Islande, 2015