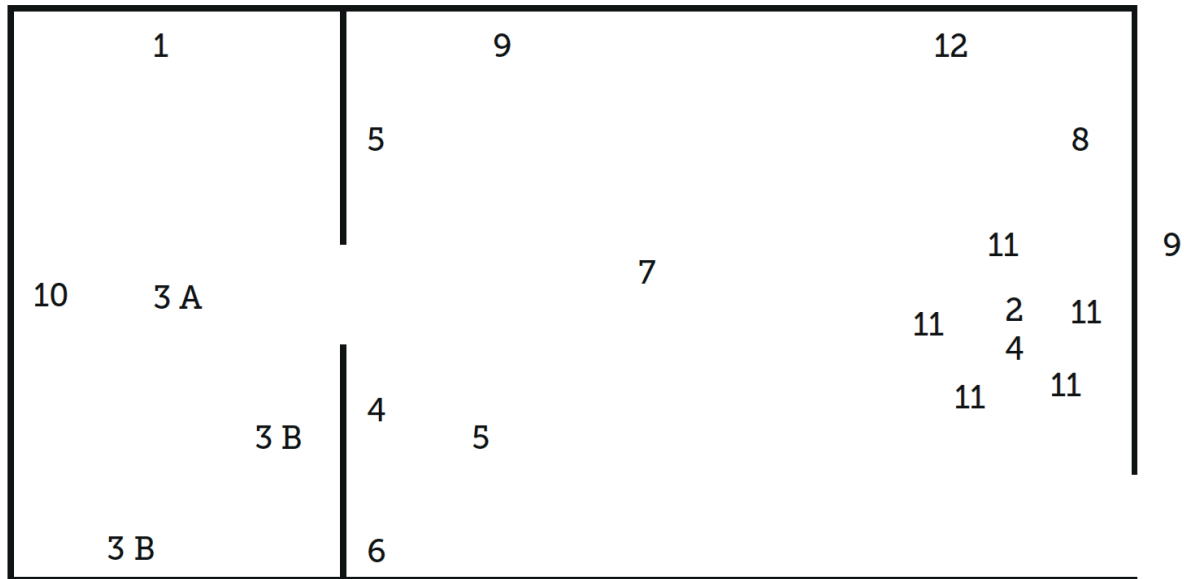


LIVING (IN) THE ARCHIVES OF RADICAL FEMINISM



06.08.2022 – 21.08.2022

ANGELA MARZULLO ALIAS MAKITA

For this installation created for the occasion, Angela Marzullo alias MAKITA centres her research on sound recordings that retrace the very rich period marked by the practice of self-consciousness, developed in the 1970s by the writer Carla Lonzi and the artist Carla Accardi. To do this, the artist puts forward various documents, including a guideline entitled „Trying to Make the Personal Political: Feminism and Consciousness-Raising“. For many years Angela Marzullo has been reinterpreting these tapes from the archives of Rivolta Femminile (1971-1972), of which Carla Lonzi was the founder and theorist. The words are transcribed word by word with the contribution of the „feminist sisters“ for recording and transcribing sessions. The staging of the installation „Living (in) the Archives of Radical Feminism“ remains faithful to the original action, creating a link between the works, their forms and this work of reactivation. The result is a horizontality, which is specific to the feminist discussion.

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1. VIDEO PROJECTION

– MAKITA WITCH

2008 – Video, 3' 30", HD, Geneva

In the video, we see Makita as a witch, flying on her broom. Through a set of mirrors, the witch is reflected on the walls and the floor. This multiplication of reflections is amplified by the installation which takes up the structure of the set. The aim is for the projection surface to dissolve into the installation and for everything to become a reflection. Even the viewer loses his or her gaze in this animated labyrinth.

– GLOSSOLALIA

2021 – Video tape, 13'45", 4K, Geneva

Glossolalia (from the Greek glōssa and lalia - chattering) is the act of speaking or praying aloud with sounds similar to those of a language, unknown to the speaker, or with a sequence of incomprehensible syllables. He/she who thus „speaks in tongues“ does not speak to men/women, but to God, for no one understands him/her. Under the influence of the Spirit, he/she says unintelligible things. In the United States, Pentecostal movements have been practising glossolalia since the beginning of the 20th century. It is also sometimes referred to as the language of angels. Because of her first name Angela, the artist feels predestined to produce this angelic glossolalia. Thanks to my first name Angela, I feel predestined to produce this Angevin glossolalia.

In collaboration with Michael Hofer, Text: Erzsi Kukorelly,
Photo : Sandra Pointet, Postproduction: Marta Revuelta

2. MATRIARCHAL RESEARCH ATLAS

2022

This Matriarchal Atlas is the visualization of a research project that revolves around „Living (in) the Archives of Radical Feminism“. Cardboard boxes are used as a container for the research. These boxes are covered with collages made by groups of women, presenting a country reclaimed by women and unpublished stories. Together they form the Atlas of a new feminist world. The boxes are arranged thematically in the „false neighbour“ mode (derived from the „good neighbour principle“ used by Aby Warburg in „The Ritual of the Serpent“¹, Macula Publisher).

3A. MAGIC CARPET

2022 – 8 pieces of fabric, size approx. 170 x 80 cm

The carpets are made from used clothing and are decorated with the Makita logo. In recent years, mass social movements have been increasingly monitored through new technologies, including drones filming demonstrations and marches. This use of drones tends to construct a masculinist power aesthetic of ‚dominant‘ remote viewing, which subordinates minorities. By using the flying carpet, she seeks to construct a magical and mystical position that participates in a feminist collective unconscious. By flying over feminist struggles, Makita and her magic carpet spread love around them and celebrate the strength of women as a multitude.

3B. MAGIC CARPET

Poster - 2017 BARCELONA/2018 NEW YORK/2016 SANTIAGO/2019 RIO/2019 MEXICO CITY/2019 GENEVA/2019 MEXICO CITY/1917 SAINT PETERSBURG/2018 PARIS

4. MAGLIA E UNCINETTO

2022 – Parasol, diameter 200 cm / mattress, 90 x 180 cm

A parasol is covered with knitted or crocheted wool fabrics. The parasol object is a reference to Carla Accardi. The title also refers to the work of Luisa Muraro and her book „Maglia e Uncinetto“, (Milano 1981. Transl. Knitting and crochet). This linguistic-political account of the enmity between metaphor (wool technique) and metonymy (crochet technique) is here spatialised in two structures - the parasol and the mattress - as a symbol of the beginning of the linguistic evolution towards epicene language.

5. CONSCIOUSNESS - RAISING COULD BE LIKE OPIUM

2022 – Embroideries on black fabric of variable dimensions

Large black fabrics are embroidered with white fluorescent thread. The embroideries are quotes from the „Rivolta Femminile“ archive tapes. This embroidery is a work in progress that was produced during the various sessions of „Living (in) the Archives of Radical Feminism“. The typeface uses the font „CAPUCINE“, which was designed by a woman - feminist typography from embroidery.

¹ Why is Warburg's library of interest to us? It is that it allows us to better understand how the effects of displacement work. How by moving elements - whether they be words, sentences, questions - by permuting things, by constantly recomposing them, one adopts a heuristic attitude - that is, one demonstrates a will to invent.

6. VIDEOPROJECTION

– LET'S SPIT ON HEGEL

2015 – Video, 10', HD, Geneva

This feminist investigation deals with the separatism between men and women in art. Arguing that women should stay away from moments of patriarchal celebration, recurrent in art history, the protagonists - Angela Marzullo's daughters - renew Carla Lonzi's 1970s feminist discourse by giving it a more contemporary impulse.

– LISTEN, RADICAL FEMINISM

2018 – Video ,45', HD, Geneva

The work of transcribing and then translating the audio archives of the self-consciousness sessions of Italian radical feminists of the 1970s is a perilous exercise that consists in finding the right balance between putting into writing words – that risk passing into posterity – and preserving the oral nature of the conversations.

7. FEMINIST ARENA SAVE SPACE

2022 – Wooden joist structure, 180 x 300 cm, height 250 cm

This wooden joist structure is placed at the heart of the installation and suggests a space reserved for women in a chosen non-mixed environment.

8. PURPLE FURNITURE

2022 – Four coffee tables in solid wood stained purple. Multi-purpose objects - dj-set, kitchen, etc.

9. FICA DE BARBARIA

2019/2022 – Photograph, construction sheeting, polyvinyl chloride, 420 x 310 cm

Opuntia ficus-indica or Nopal, native to Mexico, is a survival plant that is photographed in FICA DE BARBARIA. Fica in Latin expresses both the fig tree and the female sex. In the past, this plant was used to demarcate plots. Feminist slogans are engraved and tinted with cochineal red on the leaves of the cactus. The red colour comes from a parasite of the same name (Coccoidea), which is mainly female and nests on prickly pear trees.

10. MAKITA BOMB A

2017 – Photographs on microperforated canvas, 420 x 310 cm

A monumental poster of a nuclear cloud, an explosion that pulverises the definitions of traditional and relative categories. On this nuclear deflagration, the artist has added the sign of the female gender. It is a symbol of Venus for the goddess of love as opposed to Mars, the warrior god.

11. MATTRESS TAPE

2022 – Print on tarpaulin sewn into a mattress cover, 7 x 90 x 50 cm

The tapes, which are part of the „Rivolta Femminile“ archive from 1970, are reproduced here. The mattresses have an image on the front and back. There are 7 mattresses and they are arranged on the floor in a random way according to the needs of the audience.

12. TAPE NEON CURTAIN FOR A PURPLE ROOM

2022 – 4 neon „black light“ and audio cassette tapes, 4 neon lights, 300 x 120 cm