

**RAMIN HAERIZADEH, ROKNI HAERIZADEH, HESAM RAHMANIAN***We Are Open For Installation*

15 May – 16 September 2019



From 15 May to 16 September, Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde will cease to operate as an art gallery, in an attempt to unsettle the dictatorial art system and to reconnect with the fundamental process of art making. In its place, further to the gallery's invitation to Ramin Haerizadeh, Rokni Haerizadeh and Hesam Rahmania, the space will be handed over to the artists for the next five months as a living and breathing cellular domain. Audiences are welcome to visit *We Are Open for Installation*. Updates and invitations will be shared, or not, according to the natural energies unfolding in this collective venue.

**Artist's Biography**

Ramin Haerizadeh (born 1975, Tehran), Rokni Haerizadeh (born 1978, Tehran) and Hesam Rahmania (born 1980, Knoxville) have lived and worked together in Dubai since 2009. They work independently and together propagating a form of collaboration that doesn't suppress individualism. The seeds of their language were sown as early as 1999, back in Iran. Their practice offers up a novel redefinition of the collective, as theirs is constantly growing and contracting to incorporate friends, writers, and artists at large. It entails the use of both low and high art references, and they freely embrace 'what is considered marginal, wasted, wrong, messed up, useless, and taken for granted'. Their individual practices differ stylistically while political and social commentary become inherently subversive in a common reflection. The exhibitions they conceive are as much insights into their daily practice, which they designate as the ritual of living and working together.

Immersive and multi-media, their installations build upon their perception of life as theatre while also making visible their process. Generally, their proposals begin with the 'creatures' that the three artists become, physically and mentally, and whose very beings are the roles played. Multivalent references from a variety of sources are carefully contrived and filtered growing in parallel without trying to reconcile them. Placing emphasis on the importance of 'reporting on our time', they wish to bring attention to the urgencies of the present moment while opening up questions over a spectrum of subjects such as views on art and culture, gender fluidity, and power mechanisms.

'The conglomeration of things actually asks us to look at what is in front of us' comment the artists, demanding time for contemplation. The artists seek to encourage the viewer to recognise the reality of interdependency and the value of solidarity with others. Therefore, they create a sense of alienation or estrangement from reality with depersonalised individual subjects (creatures) and inhomogeneous crafted objects. In this way, they aim to exorcise the sentimentalism, resulting in an emotional distance to elicit from the viewer astonishment rather than empathy and ultimately allowing for critical analysis.

The collaborative has presented solo exhibitions at OGR - Officine Grandi Riparazioni, Turin (2018), MACBA, Barcelona (2017), Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), Boston (2015), Kunsthalle Zurich (2015) and Den Frie Centre of Contemporary Art, Copenhagen (2015). They presented a multi-room installation for The Creative Act at the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi (2017), and immersive installations across three venues for the 9th Liverpool Biennial (2016). In 2015, the trio presented *All the Rivers Run Into The Sea. Over. / Copy. Yet, The Sea Is Not Full. Over.* at Queensland Gallery for the 8th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art. A monograph of their work, entitled *Ramin Haerizadeh Rokni Haerizadeh Hesam Rahmanian*, was published by Mousse Publishing in 2015. Editions Patrick Frey published a facsimile of their artist book *Her Majesty?* in 2015.

### **About Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde**

After establishing B21 Gallery in 2006, one of the first contemporary art spaces in the United Arab Emirates, Isabelle van den Eynde launched her eponymous space in Dubai's Alserkal Avenue in 2010, representing a pluralistic roster of artists from the Middle East and North Africa.

Through exhibitions, book publishing and international fair participation, the gallery prides itself on closely collaborating with its artists to create insightful, and often provocative presentations that challenge the conventions and ideologies related to the notion of art display and exhibition making.

Exhibition Dates: 15 May - 16 September 2019

Ramadan Hours: Sat to Thu: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Regular Hours: Sat to Thu: 10.00 am to 6.00 pm

Location: Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde, Unit 17, Alserkal Avenue, Street 8, Al Quoz 1, Dubai, UAE

T: +971 4 323 5052

E: [info@ivde.net](mailto:info@ivde.net)

For any further information or press related requests please contact April Morais at [april@ivde.net](mailto:april@ivde.net).