



EBENSBERGER

LIKE A PRAYER

Group Show composed by Leonie Rösler and Marlene Sichelschmidt

Opening: Saturday, January 11, 2025, 6-9pm

14.01.–29.03.2025

Fichtebunker, 10967 Berlin

LIKE A PRAYER brings together eight artists from different generations to explore the enduring presence of Christian symbols and power structures within both pop culture and art. The exhibition questions religious visual traditions, plays with sacred elements, and highlights the aesthetic fractures between faith and the fervour of pop cultural enthusiasm.

Rather than merely provoking, the artists engage with Christian symbols and motifs, recontextualising them visually and acoustically. In the search for modern devotional images capable of holding their ground amidst the flood of digital imagery, the significance of the cross is questioned, and memefied icons are explored. The figure of the nun symbolises the tension between solitude and (faith) community, while the Pope ventures into the secular realm. Sometimes grim, mischievous, or seductive—yet always subversive against the patriarchal church system.

Divine sublimity is transformed into a transcendent visual language, with modern belief systems in contemporary working societies setting the rhythm. Other works address themes of violence and power structures within Christianity, drawing connections to contemporary body cults and practices such as self-flagellation. Where the Virgin of Mercy uses her cloak and body for protection, the corporeality of the (holy) mother is transformed and disguised.

Music also plays a pivotal role—whether classical orchestral or metal. Even beyond melodic pop music, the works critically engage with the institution of the church and the reverence for omnipotence. Inspired by media images of the burning and recently reopened Notre Dame in Paris, some pieces raise questions regarding the role of sacred buildings in today's society. They playfully reveal where Christian sacred architecture now appears porous despite its monumental grandeur.

LIKE A PRAYER invites viewers to engage with artistic explorations of sacred symbols, contemporary questions of faith, and aesthetic transgression. The exhibition offers an opportunity to redefine the boundaries between faith, art, and pop culture while casting a critical eye on the transformations and continuities of religious imagery in a globalised world.

Featuring works by Joschua Yesni Arnaut, Tudor Ciurescu, Lea Draeger, Laura Gaiser, Bianca Kennedy, Tobias Koenig, Sarah Neumann, and Jens Pecho.



1 Tudor Ciurescu
I'M SORRY
2022
glass
100 x 60 x 10 cm



2 Tudor Ciurescu

HERVUM

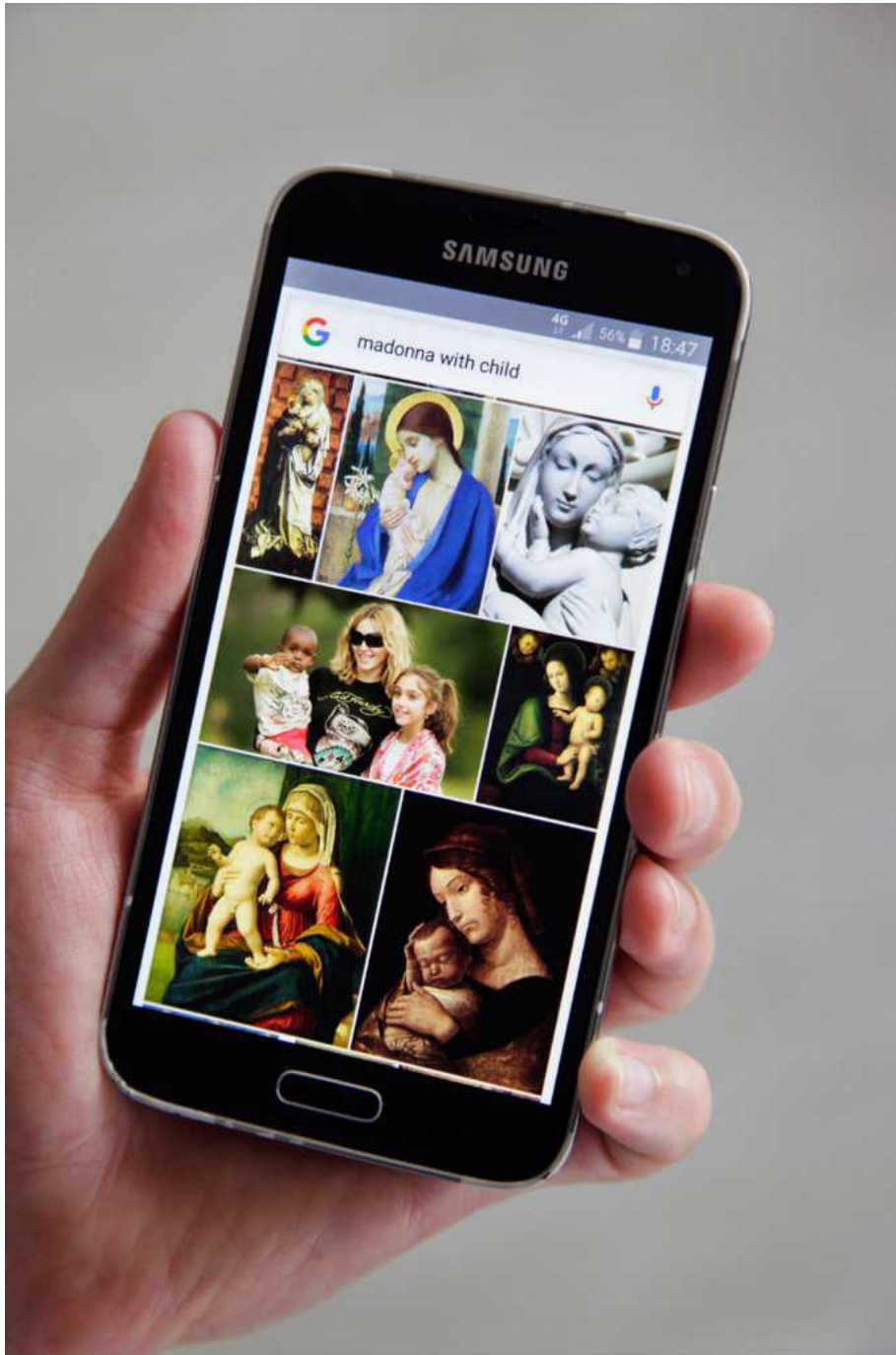
2024

Polylactic acid, stainless steel

80 x 60 x 15 cm



3 Tudor Ciurescu
DUSTULATOR
2023
welded steel
184 x 80 x 41 cm



4 Jens Pecho
Madonna With Child
2017
c-print
49.7 x 33.4 cm
25 + 2AP



5 Tobias Koenig

elsewhere (1)

2023

cardboard, metal, wood, styropor, wallpaper

dimensions variabel



6 Tobias Koenig

elsewhere (2)

2023

cardboard, metal, wood, styropor, wallpaper
dimansions variabel



7 Tobias Koenig

elsewhere (3)

2023

cardboard, metal, wood, styropor, wallpaper

dimensions variabel



8 Tobias Koenig

elsewhere (7)

2024

cardboard, metal, wood, styropor, wallpaper
dimansions variabel

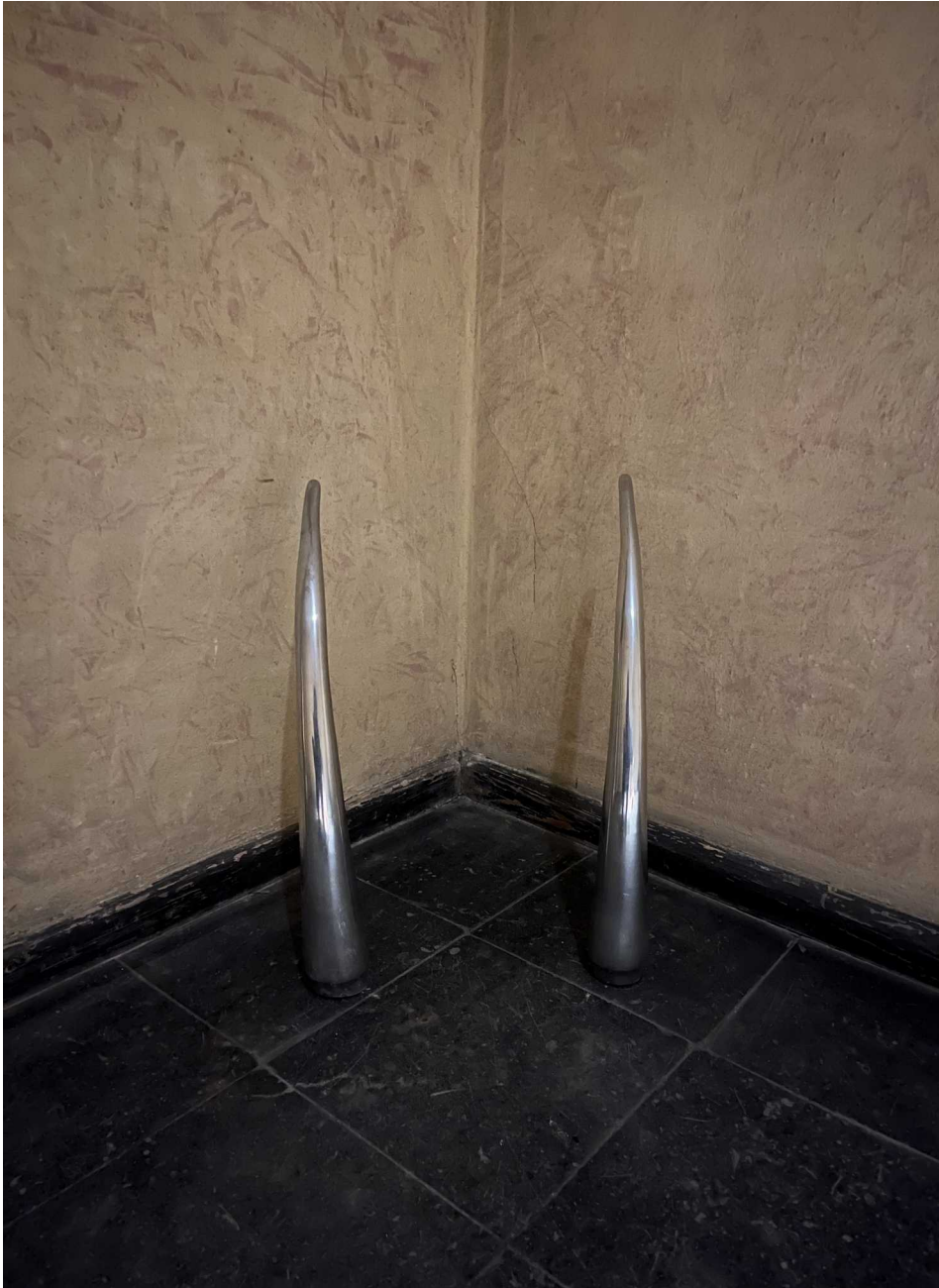


9 Laura Gaiser
Notre Dame
2019
Stop motion video, 2'03"
5 + 2 AP

In collaboration with Jonas Rehren (Jesus Chocolate Sculpture).



10 Joschua Yesni Arnaut
Everything Ends With A Punchline
(E.g.: „The Crowdpleaser“)
2023
silicone, tombstone, pegs
50 x 90 x 70 cm



11 Joschua Yesni Arnaut
Hell Is Round The Corner
2022
stainless steel, concrete h =
60 cm



12 Joschua Yesni Arnaut
Mama Said Knock You Out
2024
Inkjet print on Alu-Dibond
75 x 50 cm
3 + 2 AP



13 Jens Pecho
RGB
2018
UHD video, 7 sec. loop
25 + 5 AP



14 Sarah Neumann
Untitled
2024
ink on finnboard, steel
35 x 30.5 cm



15 Sarah Neumann
Untitled
2025
ink on finboard, steel
34.5 x 32 cm



16 Tudor Ciurescu

Icon 1

2024

acrylic on canvas, burnt pine wood

70 x 65 x 3 cm



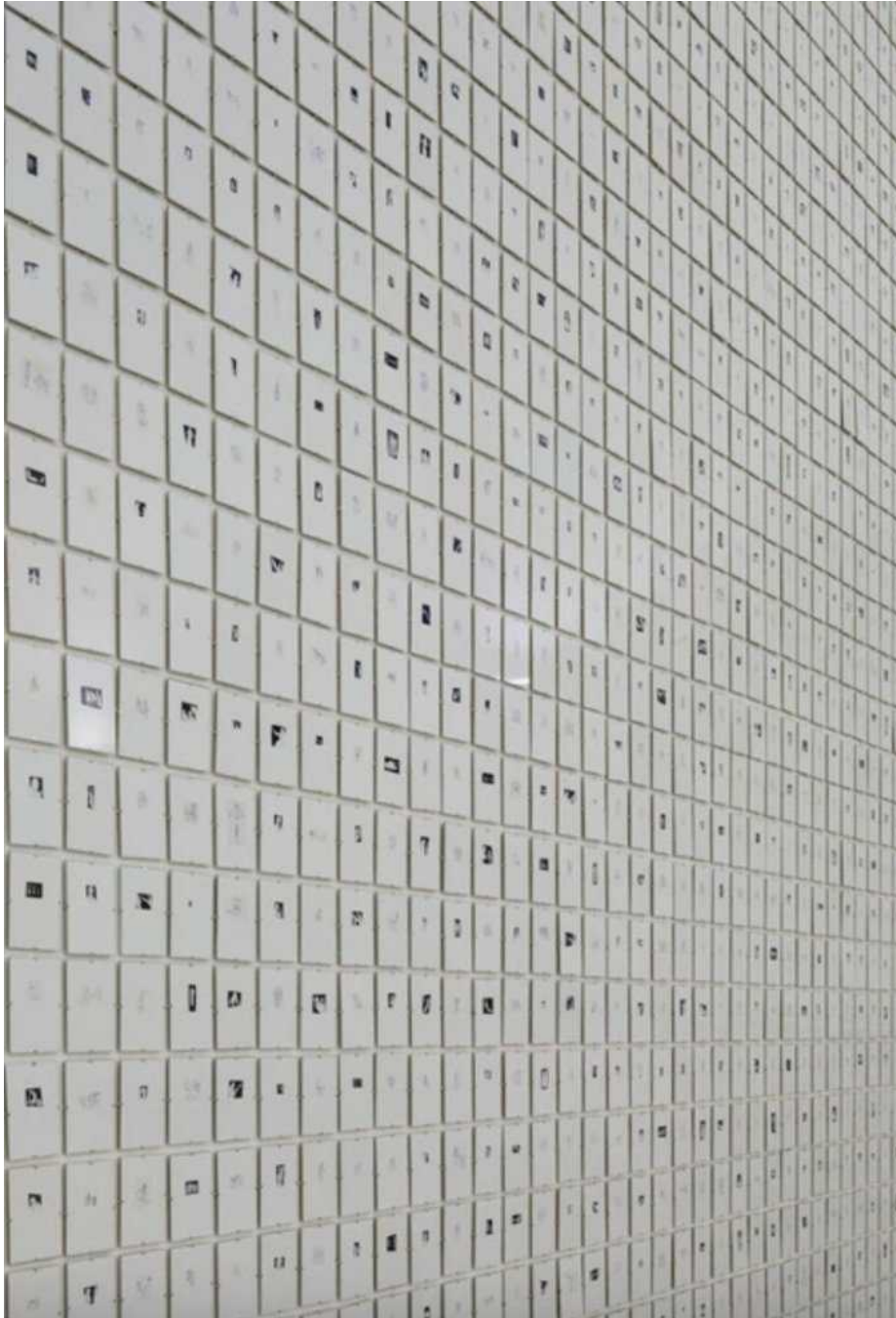
17 Bianca Kennedy

Nun of One

2023

video, 4k, 16:9, stereo sound, 6'25"

5 + 1 AP



18 Lea Draeger
*Päpst**
2024
soundwork, 2h 3' 54"
5 + 2 AP