

# SASKIA NEUMAN GALLERY

Saskia Neuman Gallery is excited to present Nadine Byrne's first exhibition with the gallery Incoherent fragments of intimacy, opening the 16<sup>th</sup> of February.

Nadine Byrne's exhibition Incoherent fragments of intimacy allows for a deep, very personal, and unbridled insight into the artist's own familial history. This is patiently expressed through a myriad of sculptures, embroidered textile collages, drawings, and video. It is perhaps easy to label tragic events of the past in a universal box of melancholy and thus archive the experiences. Byrne actively chooses the opposite approach. Upon entering the exhibition, the public is invited to engage in a sculpture formation laden with information.

A great deal of the artist's practice has incorporated textiles she's inherited, using them frequently in her work, however the inclusion of objects is new to her. We are introduced the concept of the obstruction of memory, both personal and collective, through the opaque colored glass lids of the sculpture — a nod to the potential dimming and diffusing memory. This vast archive of inherited physical objects and non-tangible emotions become our guide into the artist's practice and through the exhibition.

This selection and staging of a past, is something that the artist has appreciated as truth. Byrne's archive is an ensemble of physical and emotional memories. Although these memories have been presented as absolute truths, with the function of guiding her throughout her artistic practice, the artist came to realize early on that there are no absolutes, essentially questioning the accuracy of memory. The artist states, 'there is no one truth in regard to my past, I can't decide in finality the intricacies of what has happened, who is right and wrong.' Ultimately, by being comfortable with the grey areas of our own memory, we are open to interpretations of our personal histories. This statement ties into so many contemporary situations within the current western culture: it is not only the intent of what a person says, or does, but also in the manner of which that intent, or action, is received. The material becomes the bearer of meaning

Throughout the exhibition the artist massages the idea of combining layers of time by pressing material together that are in fact from different phases in a life, fusing their separate meanings together. She circumvents chronology and chooses to originate from a simultaneous multitude of temporalities. By inviting the viewer into a realm of personal memory through a lens of beauty and inuendo we are charged with opportunity to face our own truths via Byrne's exhibition, her Incoherent fragments of intimacy become our own.

For more information about the exhibition please contact  
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