

# Istituto Svizzero

*Real Estate*

**Solo Exhibition by Mai-Thu Perret**

25.03.2022

26.06.2022

Opening

24.03.2022

Free entry

Istituto Svizzero  
Via Ludovisi 48  
Roma

Press Release

Press contacts  
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*Real Estate* is the first major solo exhibition in Italy by Swiss artist Mai-Thu Perret. Conceived for the spaces of Istituto Svizzero, the exhibition offers an overview of the themes, processes and materials explored by the artist.

In March 2022 opens *Real Estate*, the first major solo exhibition in Italy by Swiss artist Mai-Thu Perret. Conceived in close exchange with the artist, the exhibition includes existing and new works - such as a life-size sculpture, which draws on Mai-Thu Perret's interest in the gods of Roman mythology. *Real Estate* offers an overview of the themes, processes and materials explored by the artist: the sculptures, paintings, ceramic works, performances and texts stand at the intersection of contemporary culture, art history criticism and materiality. Mai-Thu Perret explores (and generates) feminist narratives and counter-narratives highlighting the role of the art object, introducing utilitarian, symbolic and even mystical possibilities into contexts that are often limited to formalist readings. The title of the exhibition *Real Estate* is not only a play on words with the Italian term 'estate' (the summer season) but refers to the title of Deborah Levy's 'living autobiography'. In this sense, the artist reflects on the definition of 'home', domesticity and the connotations of gender in architecture - themes that are present throughout the exhibition. The show also includes a new spoken word piece by Tamara Barnett-Herrin.

Exhibition curated by Gioia Dal Molin (Head Curator at Istituto Svizzero).

At the same time as the exhibition, it will be possible to see the semi-permanent installation recently commissioned from Mai-Thu Perret for the entrance of Villa Maraini. The work consists of a neon work that illuminates the building and is visible to passers-by on Via Ludovisi.

**Mai-Thu Perret** (born 1976) lives and works in Geneva. She has exhibited in major Swiss and international institutions such as Badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe, Germany (2019); Spike Island, Bristol, England (2019); MAMCO, Geneva (2019); Musée d'art moderne et contemporain, Geneva (2016); Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas (2016); Le Magasin, Grenoble, France (2012); Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich (2011); University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor (2010); San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (2008); and the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago (2006). Perret's work is in the permanent collection of institutions worldwide, including the Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Paris; Collection Aargauer Kunsthhaus, Aarau; Fond National d'Art Contemporain, Paris; Migros Museum of Contemporary Art, Zurich; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and Walker Art Center, Minneapolis.

**Istituto Svizzero** acts as an interdisciplinary platform bringing together artistic and scientific research. From Rome, Milan or Palermo, it facilitates connections both between Switzerland and Italy, as well as internationally. Istituto Svizzero offers residencies to emerging artists and researchers who wish to contribute to the future of art, science and innovation. Each year, the Institute presents a public programme aimed at promoting forward-thinking events and projects, experimental practices and excellence in research. Istituto Svizzero seeks to actively participate in the global discourse on arts and society, envisioning new paths and looking beyond the boundaries of disciplines.

### Information

Free entry, registration at the door. Access is allowed only to those who obtained the Reinforced Green Pass health certificate, which proves vaccination or recovery. It is mandatory to wear a Ffp2 face mask within our spaces.

### Opening times:

Wednesday – Friday: 11:00-17:00

Thursday: 11:00-20:00

Saturday: 14:00-18:00

### Contacts:

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