



ESTHER FERRER

BIOGRAPHY

The work of artist Esther Ferrer (San Sebastián, Spain, 1937) oscillates between action art, collage, photography, drawing and sound.

Her work is rooted in the minimalist and conceptual currents that emerged in the 1960s, as well as the feminisms of the period and dematerialised art.

Ferrer is one of the leading representatives and pioneers of performance art in Spain, as well as a committed feminist whose artistic and theoretical production has helped to give visibility to women's issues. Through her body, which is at the heart of her practice, she has made visible issues such as the temporality and spatiality of creative processes, movement, transformation and randomness.

Her works, which are both object-based and corporeal, bring together influences from multiple disciplines and demonstrate the artist's penchant for humour and the absurd.

Ferrer's work is heterogeneous and does not follow a progressive chronology.

Her work is a constant dialogue between performances, objects, photographs, videos and collages, behind which always lie the ideas of fragility, movement, rhythm, iteration, seriality, continuity, transformation, randomness and structure. These concepts, which stem from her interest in translating the same idea into different media, transform her works into exercises in critical research into the way we perceive and relate to time and space.

Ferrer's work is widely recognised internationally.

She represented Spain at the Venice Biennale in 1999, In 2008 she was awarded the Premio Nacional de Artes Plásticas, in 2012 the Premio Gure Artea by the Basque Government, and in 2014 the MAV Prize (Women in the Visual Arts) and the Premio Velázquez, one of the most important prizes for her entire career and centre Pompidou- Bernard Heidsieck Prize in 2022.

With her performances, she has taken part in international festivals in the United States, France, Germany, Japan, Canada, Brazil and Palestine, to name but a few.

Her work has been exhibited in institutions around the world such as the Reina Sofía in Madrid, the Centre Pompidou in Paris, the CAAC in Seville, the CGAC in Santiago, the Museo de Bellas Artes in Rio de Janeiro, the ARTIUM in Vitoria and the Staatsgalerie in Stuttgart, among many others...

Dans le cadre, du cadre de l'art" - For sale, furnished. Decoration? Camouflage operation? Plastic equivalent of "furniture music"? A nod to Satie? These white mirrors tinged with irony, these moulded cracks, these rococo corbels adorned with flowers framing a perfect geometry composed of successive frames, play on and thwart the art of the frame and... the frame of art, that of surrogate paintings, of tautological art; they offer a sense of humour in the style of Kolkos and company. Vitruvius points out that the Caryatids bend under the architraves of the temples to remind the Carians that it is dangerous to rise up against Greece. The Van Eyck brothers pushed Adam out of the "Altarpiece of the Mystic Lamb" - his foot resting on the ledge, between real and fictional space - so that he could bear witness to an embodied history. Under Napoleon III, the frames glorified a Pompeian painting or allowed it to be forgotten. Jumping from century to century, the frame fabricates meaning; to think of the frame at Fluxus is to invite people to step outside it, to break down the barriers between disciplines. John Cage, who inspired this movement, also influenced Zaj, acting like a demonic catalyst on the group and inviting them to discover sound, silence and action, while allowing events, noise and fury to occur.

Art and life fit into the same frame, that of the off-screen. Every ornament has a function. So, frames framing frames? framing parts of walls? or others, from which raw materials emerge: string, metal, springs, plastic? So much care has been taken with the 'packaging', perhaps to reflect the preciousness of its contents, meaning that everything that surrounds it can have a touch of magic about it. Could this exhibition be an overplay of artifice, a way of rethinking reality and its magic? Could it be the gallery of this Republic of Genius, imbued with Dada humour and conceived from bits of string and pieces of wood? The interpretation remains open, the opera aperta, an opportunity to be seized, as part of...

Francine Flandrin, 2009

Esther Ferrer - "Frame that frames frame, that frames frame... that frames nothing" - 1986/2008

EXHIBITION

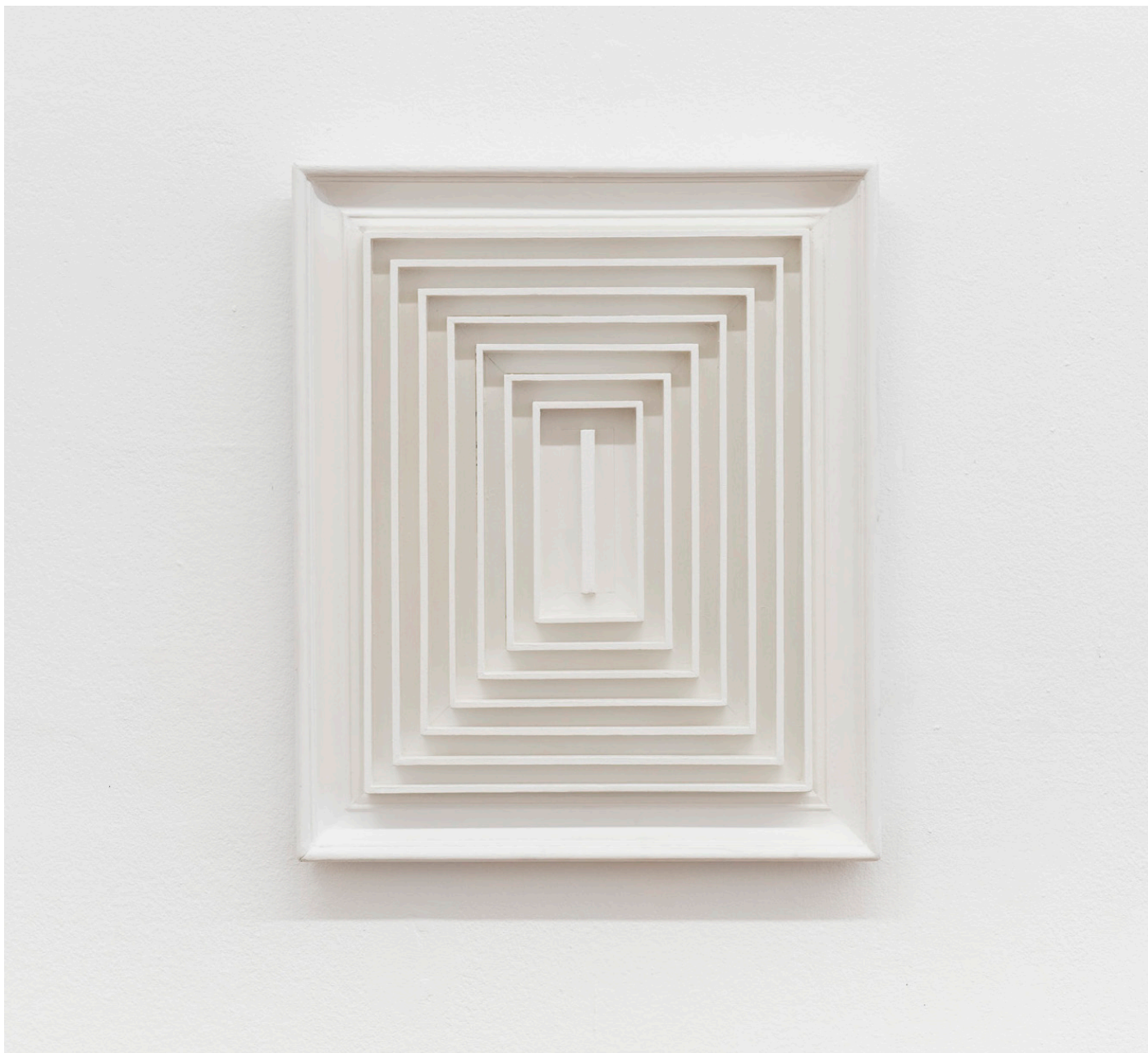
Gandy Gallery, Bratislava
21.03.2024 - 17.05.2024



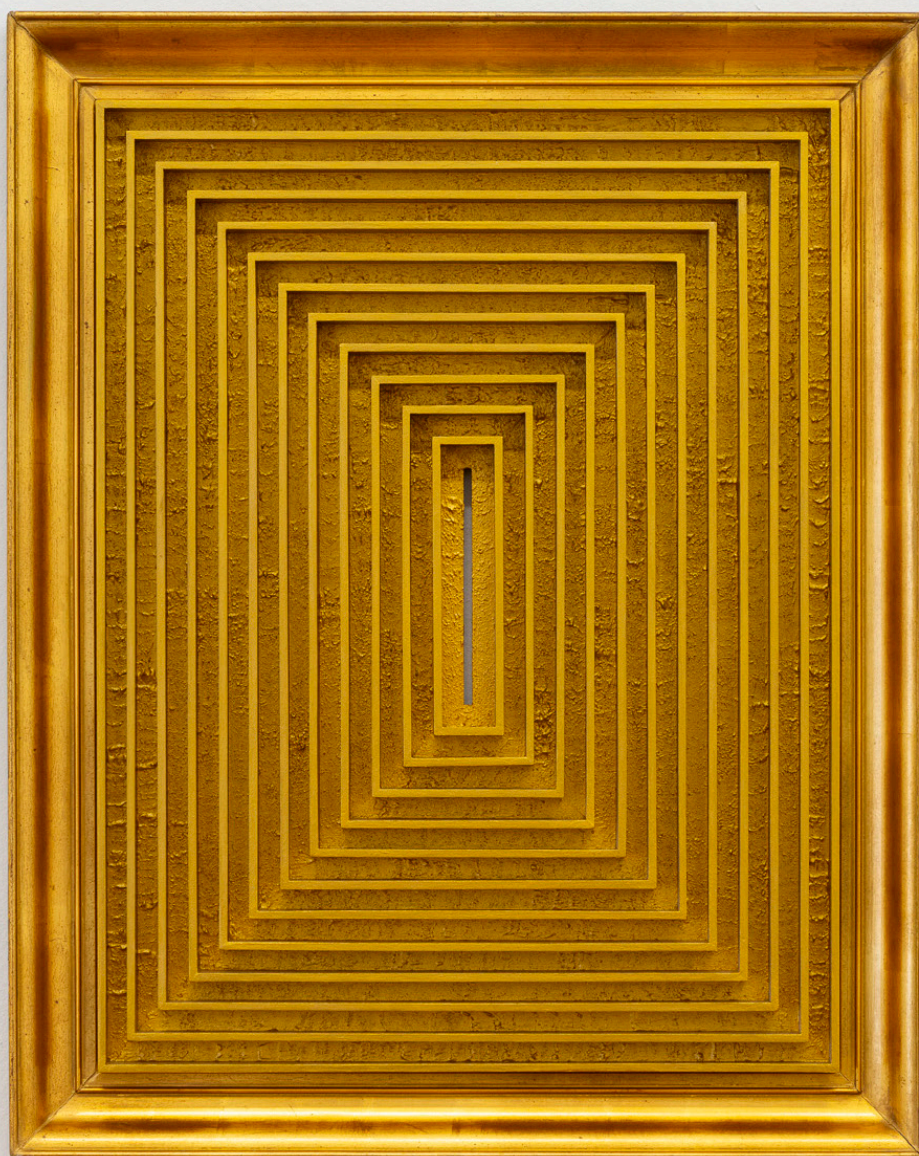
Series: *In the frame of art -
Reversible (Front and back view),
2008/2009*

*8 frames painted with aluminium
paint on one side and black
varnish on the other + feet
54 x 43 x 6 cm*

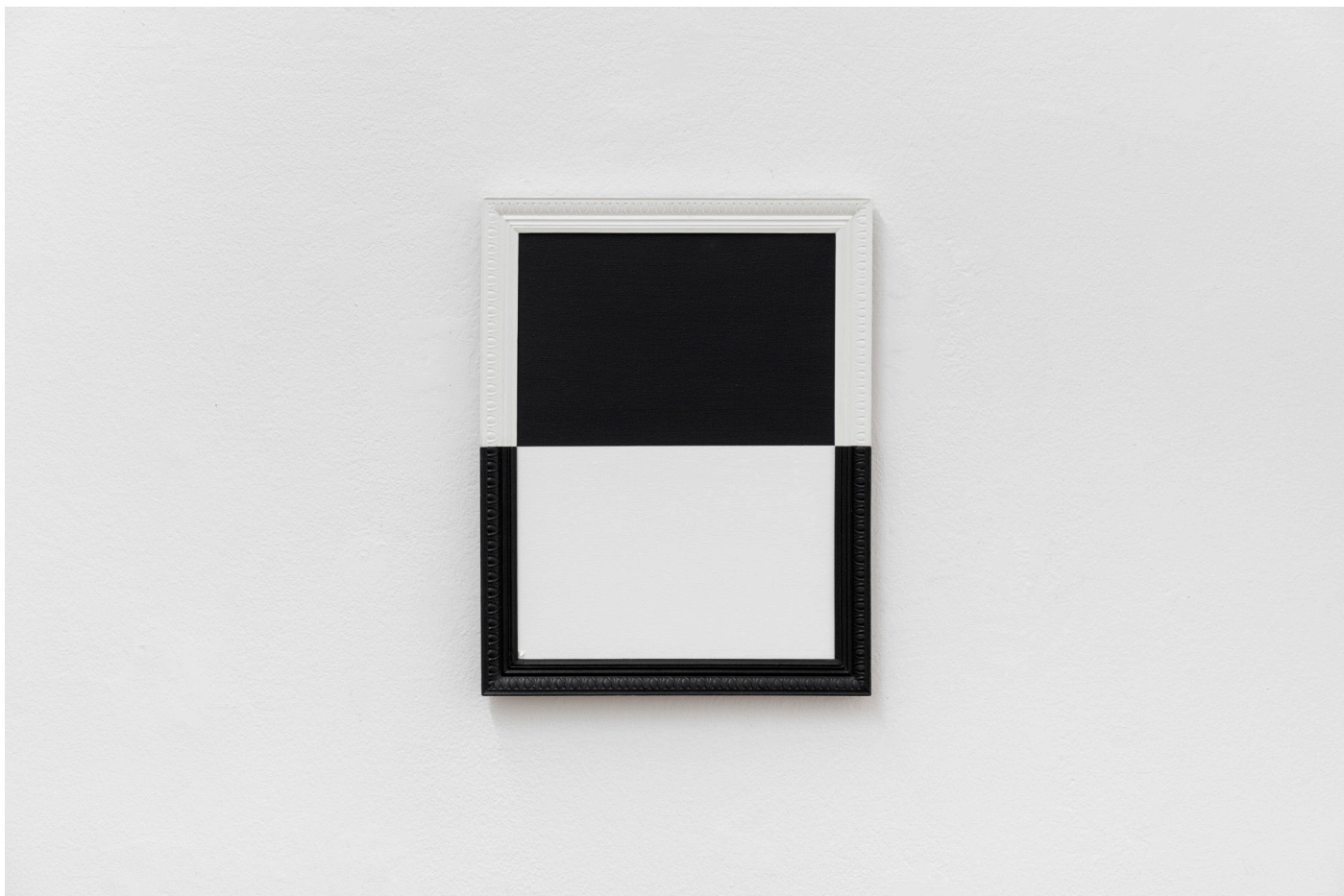




Series: *In the frame of art: Frame which frames frame, which frames frame etc. Monochrome, 2008*
8 wooden frames, painted in white oil
50 x 42 x 5 cm



Series: *in the frame of art - Frame that frames frame, (13 times) that frames frame nothing*, 1986/2009
13 golden frames
75 x 60 x 4'5 cm



Series: *in the frame of art - Spirit of contradiction*, 1990

Oil painted b/w canvas and frame

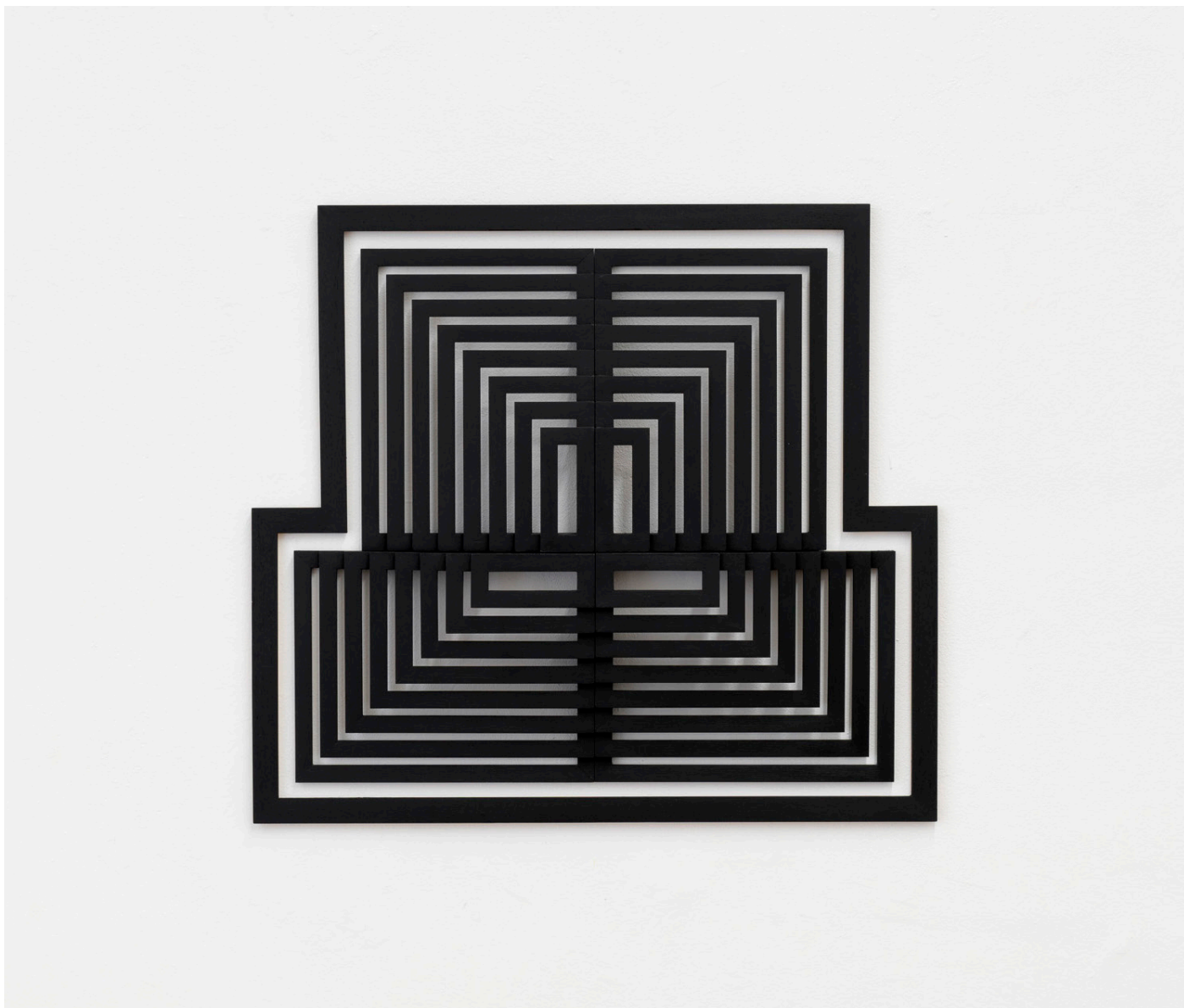
46 x 36 cm



Series: *In the frame of art - Within the framework of post-modern art, 1987/88*
4 white painted wooden modules, each measuring 35 x 27 x 6 cm + red cord
90 x 64 x 6 cm



Series: *In the frame of art - Reversible -Frame that frames frame etc. Frame that frames nothing*, 1986
7 oil-painted and varnished frames
46'5 x 37'5 x 6 cm



Series: *In the frame of art - Within the framework of modern art, 1987/1988*
4 black-painted wooden modules, each measuring 35 x 27 x 6 cm + black-painted wooden frame
80 x 72 x 6 cm



Series: *In the frame of art - Within the framework of art, it's obvious*, 2007/2009
Gilded wood frame + stamps on medium
60,5 x 50,55 x 4 cm

Series: *In the frame of art : Autumn politics*, 2008/2009
Frame + varnished natural leaves + collage + plastic bag
170 x 58 cm



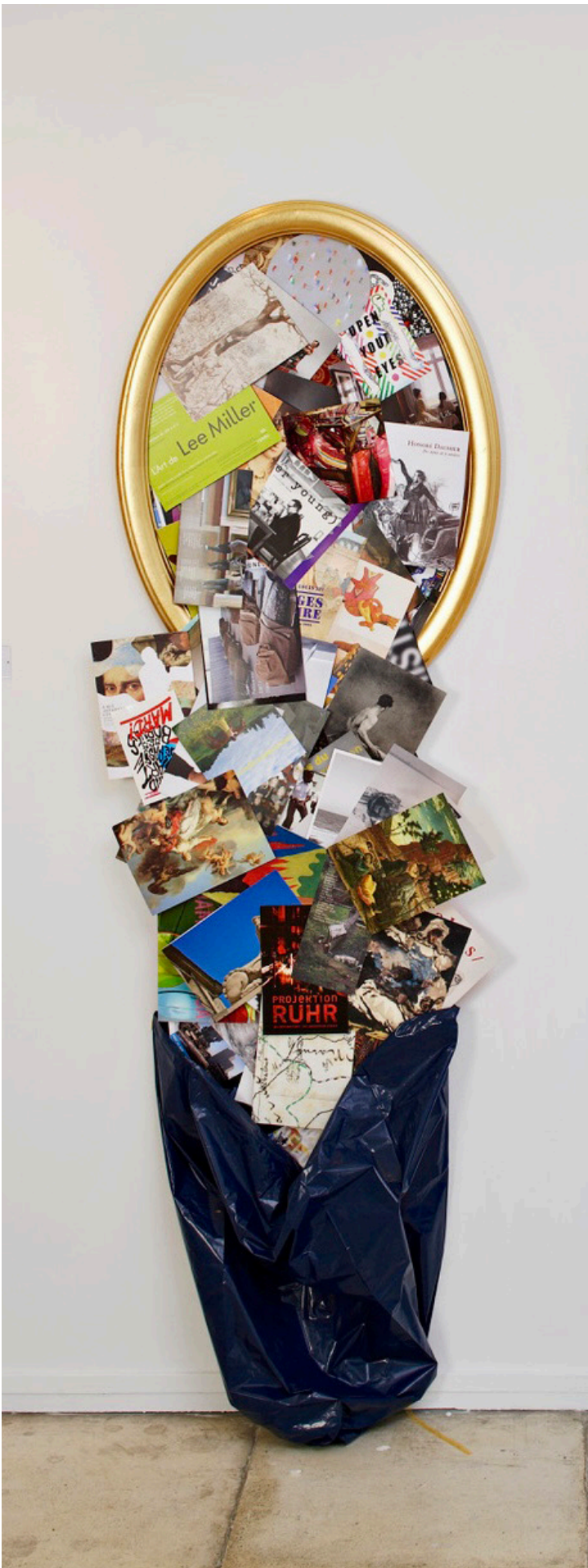


Series: *In the frame of art - Within the framework of pastoral art, 1995/2009*

Wood frame + natural sheep's wool

57 x 46 x 10 cm

Series: *In the frame of art : Artistic Autumn, 2008/09*
Frame + invitations + plastic bag
190 x 65 cm





Series: *In the frame of art - Within the framework of the art of money*, 2009

Gilded frame + coins

17 x 13 x 6 cm



Series: *In the frame of art - Within the framework of the art of metal*, 2008/2009
Painted wooden frame + metal peel
37 x 37 x 15 cm

CV

born in 1937, San Sebastián, España
works and lives in Paris, France

Solo exhibitions:

2024

"Esther Ferrer", Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Buenos Aires, Argentina
Esther Ferrer, Birgit Jürgenssen, Gandy Gallery, Bratislava
Spark Art Fair, solo show Gandy Gallery, Vienna, Austria

2022

"Permutaciones / Probabilidades / Azar", CICUS, Sevilla, España
Poemas, àngels barcelona, Barcelona
I am going to tell you about my life, The Art and Culture Foundation Opelvillen Rüsselsheim, Rüsselsheim

2021

Espacio / Tiempo / Presencia, 1 MIRA MADRID, Madrid

2020

Esther Ferrer, "Por partes", Gandy Gallery, Bratislava, SK

2019

Esther Ferrer. Verso vi., Hôpital Joseph Ducuing, Toulouse, FR
Esther Ferrer. 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23..., Tabakalera, San Sebastián, ES Esther Ferrer, CAAM, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, ES

2018

Esther Ferrer. Intertwined spaces, Guggenheim Bilbao, Bilbao, ES

2017

All variations are possible including this one, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, ES

2016

Entre líneas y cosas, CEART, Fuenlabrada, ES

2014

Esther Ferrer. Face B. Image / Autoportrait, MAC/VAL Musée d'Art Contemporain du Val-de-Marne, Paris, FR Esther Ferrer. Structures and spaces projects, Lara Vincy, Paris, FR

2013

Esther Ferrer, Esther Ferrer. Le chemin se fait en marchant (face A), FRAC Bretagne, Rennes, FR Performance, una versión de „Intimo y personal", Koldo Mitxelena Kulturunea, Bilbao, ES 2012

Esther Ferrer. En cuatro movimientos, cGac Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Compostela, ES Esther Ferrer. En cuatro movimientos, Es Baluard, Palma de Mallorca, Palma de Mallorca, ES Models and preliminary drawings, àngels barcelona, Barcelona, ES

2011

Esther Ferrer. En cuatro movimientos, ARTIUM (Centro-Museo Vasco de Arte Contemporáneo), Vitoria-Gasteiz, ES

2010

Encore une Performance!?, Centre Pompidou, Paris, FR

2009

Dans le cadre de l'art, Galerie Lara Vincy, Paris, FR ARCO'09. Stand de El País, ARCO, Madrid, ES

2008

Autorretrato en el tiempo, àngels barcelona, Barcelona, ES

2007

No ritmo do tempo, Museo Nacional de Belas Artes, Rio de Janeiro, BR Al ritmo del tiempo, Instituto Cervantes, São Paulo, BR

Al ritmo del tiempo, Instituto Cervantes, Salvador de Bahía, BR TRANSacciones, Museo Universitario de Ciencia y Arte, Rome, IT Autorretrato en el espacio, Instituto Cervantes, Toulouse, FR Autorretrato en el espacio, Espace Croix Baragnon, Toulouse, FR

2006

Al ritmo del tiempo, Instituto Cervantes, Rome, IT

2005

Al ritmo del tiempo, San Sebastián, ES
Al ritmo del tiempo, Círculo de Bellas Artes, Madrid, IT

2004

FIAC de París, Galerie Lara Vincy, Paris, FR

2003

Suelo para el Parque del Prado, Vitoria-Gasteiz, ES

2002

BWA, Galería Labirynt, Lublin, PL
Le poème des nombres premiers, Galerie Lara Vincy, Paris, FR

2001

Esther Ferrer, Museum of Contemporary Art, Roskilde, DK

2000

Indisposition, Galerie Schüppenhauer, Köln, DE Sur la photo, Galerie J et J Donguy, Paris, FR
Installation Géométrique, Galería Arsenal, Bialystok, PL Lieu Commun - Installation, Institut Français, Bremen, DE

1999

Experimental Intermedia - Silla ZAJ, El Huis, Gand, BE Bienal de Venecia, Venice, IT

1998

Le livre du sexe / Le livre des têtes, Centre International de Poésie de Marseille, Marseille, FR De la acción al objeto y viceversa, Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo, Sevilla, ES

1997

De la acción al objeto y viceversa, San Sebastián, ES

1996

Le poème des nombres premiers II, Galerie Satellite, Paris, FR

1995

La série des séries, Galerie J et J Donguy, Paris, FR

1993

Objet contextualisé - Objet decontextualisé, Galerie J et J Donguy, Paris, FR

1992

Dans le cadre de l'art, Galerie Satellite, Paris, FR

1991

Autoportraits, Galería AELE, Madrid, ES

1986

Instalación basada en los números primos, Fondation DANAE, Pouilly, FR

1985

El poema de los números primos, Galería Buades, Madrid, ES Instalación basada en los números primos, Apolophius, Eindhoven, NL

1984

Perfiles, Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona, ES

1974

Autour d'une exposition - 1a instalación con hilos, Chateau de Nancel, FR

Group exhibitions:**2023**

"Contra tiempo", Centro dados negros, Villanueva de los infantes, Ciudad Real, España
"La ocupación. Carta blanca a Cabello/Carceller", Patio Herreriano, Valladolid, España
"La imagen humana. Arte, identidades y simbolismo", Caixa Forum, Barcelona
"El origen es ahora / Jatorria orain da", Altzerri, Donostia-San Sebastián, España
"Escribir todos sus nombres", Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Helga de Alvear, España

2022

"A feminist-avangarde" Verbund Collection, Arles Les rencontres de la Photographie
Mujeres de la Abstraccion", Museo Guggenheim Bilbao, Spain
"Lo más bonito del mundo", Sala de exposiciones Fundación Mediterráneo, Alicante (España)

“Escribir todos sus nombres“, Palais Populaire, Berlín (Alemania)

“Parisienne citoyennes!“, Musée Carnavalet - París (Francia)

“Le chemin se fait en marchant“, Les Ateliers des Arques, Les Arques, Francia

“A matter of time“, Galería Angels, Barcelona (España)

“INDÉSIRABLES. DEL BOMBARDEO AL CAMPO. TRAYECTOS DEL EXILIO“, San Telmo Museoa, España

2021

Lentamente un olor en el fondo de tu mirada. Colección olorVISUAL, Sala Muncunill, Terrassa

Cuando cambia el mundo. Preguntas sobre arte y feminismos, Centro Cultural Kirchner, Buenos Aires

Elles font l'abstraction, Centre Pompidou, París

Mujeres de la abstracción, Guggenheim Bilbao, Bilbao

La imagen humana: arte, identidades y simbolismo, Caixa Forum Madrid, Madrid

2020

Action: A provisional history of the 90s, MACBA, Barcelona

A discourse of uncertainties, 1 MIRA MADRID, Madrid

Dos Espacios, àngels barcelona, Barcelona

Mujeres fotógrafas. Una historia contada a medias, Tabacalera, Sala Rimaia Centro Social, Madrid

So Lazy. Elogio del derroche., CaixaForum, Barcelona

2019

Par Hasard, La Friche Belle de Mai, Marseille, FR

The Notational Shift, MUSAC - Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León, León, ES

Picasso et l'exil. Une histoire de l'art espagnol en résistance, Les Abattoirs, Musée FRAC Occitanie, Toulouse, FR

Caixa Collection of Contemporary Art. Selected by Maria Fusco, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, GB

FEMINISMS!, CCCB, Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Barcelona, ES

2018

The way you read a book is different of how I tell you a story, Jahn und Jahn, München, DE
Silent Cries: Elena Asins & Esther Ferrer, Instituto Cervantes NYC, New York, USA
Performance TV, Maison d'Art Bernard Anthonioz (MABA), Nogent-sur-Marne, FR

Escenas: acción y Representación' de La Colección Los Bragales, La Ciudadela, Pamplona, ES
Measurements, Société de electricité, Brussels, BE

À l'heure du dessin, 6e temps.Tracé, Château de Servières, Marseille, FR
Números, músicas y formas, àngels barcelona, Barcelona, ES

Women on paper, Espace de l'Art Concret, Mouans-Sartoux, FR

2017

Vocales, CAC Brétigny, Brétigny-sur-Orge, FR
Autogestión, Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona, ES

¡Mírame!, Caixa Forum Sevilla, Sevilla, ES

Tous, des sang-mêlés, MAC/VAL Musée d'Art Contemporain du Val-de-Marne, Vitry-sur-Seine, FR

Muchos caminos. Imágenes contemporáneas del Camino de Santiago, Real Academia de España en Roma, Rome, IT

2016

My Friends and Other Animals, Travesía Cuatro, Madrid, ES
Atlas de la Ruinas de Europa, Centrocentro Cibeles, Madrid, ES

The Language Games, àngels barcelona-espai2, Barcelona, ES

Fotografía en la colección CIRCA XX. Tradición y Renovación,, IIAAC Pablo Serrano, Zaragoza, ES
Escuchar con los ojos. Arte sonoro en España, 1961-2016, Fundación Juan March, Madrid, ES

2015

If a Circle Meets Itself, Hollybush Gardens, London, GB

Desires and Necessities-New incorporations to the MACBA collection, MACBA, Barcelona, ES

ARTINTERNATIONAL Istanbul / Stand A08: Peter Downsbrough, Esther Ferrer, Joaquim Llucià., Halic Congress Center, Istanbul, TR

Tercer Espacio: entre tradición y modernidad, Foro Arte Cáceres, Cáceres, ES

2014

Contratemp, Comisart- New Views of la Caixa Collection, CaixaForum, Barcelona, ES
Summa Contemporary Art Fair, Madrid

Antonio López-Menchero & Esther Ferrer, La Centrale for Contemporary Art, Brussels, BE

2013

LOOP/Screen from Barcelona Festival: Pep Agut, Peter Downsbrough, Harun Farocki, Esther Ferrer, Ion Griogrescu, àngels barcelona, Barcelona, ES

2012

re.act.feminism #2. A Performing Archive, Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona, ES John Cage, Kuad Gallery, Istanbul, TR

2011

Contratempus. Pep Agut, Esther Ferrer, Joan Fontcuberta, àngels barcelona, Barcelona, ES
From Revolt to Postmodernity (1962-1982), Collection 3, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, ES

2010

ELLES, Women artists in the collection, Centre Pompidou, Paris, FR

2009

...Soudain l'Été Fluxus, Passage de Retz, Paris, FR

2008

La performance expandida, Centro Cultural Cajazol, Sevilla, ES
La chute ou la Lutte - Kaplan's Project, Palazzo Spinelli, Naples, IT

2007

En Quête d'Identité, Centre Photographique d'Ile de France Pontault-Combault, Paris, FR Dans le sens du non-sens, Galerie Lara Vincy, Paris, FR

2005

Desacuerdos, MACBA, Barcelona, ES
Le droit à l'autocontradiction, Galerie Satellite, Paris, FR
El arte sucede - Origen de las prácticas conceptuales en España (1965-1980), Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, ES

2004

Moi! Autoportraits du XXème Siècle, Musée du Luxembourg, Paris, FR Moi Autoritratti del XX secolo, Galleria degli Uffizi, Florence, IT
Arte y utopía. Acción limitada, MACBA, Barcelona, ES

2003

Terre inconnue, Galerie Satellite, Paris, FR

2001

Los minimalismos - música silenciosa, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, ES

2000

Le temps vite, Centre Pompidou, Paris, FR

1999

VIAGRAME, Galerie Satellite, Paris, FR
I Remember, Gandy Gallery, Praha, CZ

1998

Art dégénéré, Pavillon de Vendôme, Aix-en-Provence, FR

1997

Feria de arte contemporáneo de Basilea, Basel, CH

1996

4th St. Petersburg Biennale Eastern Europe, SPATIA NOVA, Saint Petersburg, RU

1995

En l'esperit de Fluxus, Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona, ES

1994

Poésies sonores, Galerie Lara Vincy, Paris, FR

Public collections:**Austria:**

Sammlung Verbund, Vienna

Denmark:

Museet for Samtidskunst, Roskilde

France:

CNAP

Centre George Pompidou, Paris

FRAC - Lorraine, Metz, FR

FRAC - Bretagne

FRAC - Franche-Comte

Island:

Safn, Reykjavik

Spain:

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid

MACBA, Barcelona

Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno (CAAM), Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

ARTIUM Centro-Museo Vasco de Arte Contemporáneo Vitoria-Gasteiz

La Caixa Foundation

Caja de Ahorros del Mediterráneo

Prizes and awards:

2022

Prix Bernard Heidsieck-Centre Pompidou

2014

Price Marie Claire

Velazquez Prize (International prize in Spain)

2013

MAV Prize (Mujeres en las Artes Visuales)

2012

Gure Artea Prize of Basque Government

2008

Spanish National prize for the Arts

1999

Spain's National Award for Plastic Arts