

Poetics of Matter

Poetics of Matter brings together a group of contemporary Latin American artists whose practices are rooted in a deep engagement with materiality. Encompassing sculpture, textile, painting, ceramics, drawing, installation, and mixed media, the exhibition examines how matter can function as a repository of memory, knowledge, transformation, and imagination. Across diverse approaches and geographies, the artists challenge the conventional distinction between form and content, revealing how materials themselves carry histories, cultural meanings, and latent narratives.

Clay, textile, rope, hair, concrete, velvet, shells, pigment, and found materials become vehicles through which invisible forces are made tangible. Whether shaped by hand, stitched, unraveled, embroidered, molded, or accumulated, these materials retain traces of labor, gesture, and time. The exhibition proposes materiality as a language capable of articulating relationships between body and landscape, nature and culture, memory and perception, the intimate and the collective.

In the ceramic sculptures of Andrés Anza, amorphous forms emerge from an intuitive imagination, occupying a space between the familiar and the unknown. Ayla Tavares explores how material carry memory, knowledge, and multiple layers of time. Bringing together references from archaeology, science, architecture, and everyday life, she transforms phenomena that exceed human perception into intimate forms that can be experienced at the scale of the body. Through clay and drawing, her works create spaces where matter becomes a vehicle for imagining unseen narratives, forces, and connections. Janaina Mello Landini's *Ciclotramas* transforms unraveled rope into expansive organic networks that evoke root systems, rivers, and vascular structures, revealing the invisible connections that bind individual elements into larger ecosystems.

Elsewhere, material becomes a site of resistance and transformation. Claribel Calderius employs embroidery, textiles, and symbolic languages to address histories of surveillance, silence, migration, and personal memory, transforming intimate narratives into collective reflections on power and belonging. Laura Sánchez Filomeno works with human hair, shells, silk, and magnifying lenses to construct hybrid taxonomies inspired by natural history collections and cabinets of curiosities. Her delicate works challenge distinctions between attraction and repulsion, nature and artifice, inviting viewers to reconsider systems of classification and value.

The exhibition also explores the body as a mutable territory. Through vibrant textile assemblages, Yuli Yamagata creates fantastical forms that oscillate between organism and object, humor and unease, drawing on the visual languages of manga, consumer culture, and science fiction. Dani Cavalier's solid paintings, composed of discarded Lycra fragments, collapse the boundaries between painting, sculpture, and textile while reclaiming forms of labor historically associated with women's domestic practices. Likewise, the collaborative works of Firmo & Salgueiro transform velvet, stitching, and

quilting into tactile landscapes that preserve traces of movement, intimacy, and bodily presence.

Alejandro Corujeira approaches materiality through a more contemplative register. His layered paintings, informed by pre-Columbian abstraction, Japanese poetry, and minimalist music, use color, rhythm, and transparency to create meditative spaces that oscillate between silence and vibration. In his work, matter becomes a vehicle for spiritual and sensory experience.

Marlon de Azambuja examines the symbolic, political, and perceptual dimensions of materiality. Drawing on his experience as a migrant and his understanding of the city as a living organism, he explores the ways physical, social, and cultural structures shape our relationship to the world. Working with materials such as concrete, plants, dust, fire, and electricity, Azambuja transforms everyday elements into poetic interventions that reveal hidden systems, invisible forces, and alternative ways of perceiving and inhabiting space.

Rather than presenting material as an inert substance, *Poetics of Matter* approaches it as active, generative, and relational—a dynamic field through which narratives, identities, and forms of knowledge are continually produced and transformed. The works gathered here suggest that matter remembers, resists, communicates, and evolves, revealing the poetic potential embedded within the physical realm. In this context, the poetic emerges as a way of recognizing the latent capacities of materials to shape how we perceive, inhabit, and imagine the world. Through practices that range from meticulous craftsmanship to intuitive experimentation, the artists invite us to reconsider our relationship with the materials that surround us and with the invisible networks, histories, and forces they contain.

Artists: Alejandro Corujeira, Andrés Anza, Ayla Tavares, Claribel Calderius, Dani Cavalier, Firmo & Salgueiro, Janaina Mello Landini, Laura Sánchez Filomeno, Marlon de Azambuja, and Yuli Yamagata.

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