# MAJDA VIDAKOVIC

Majda Vidakovic is a multidisciplinary artist whose gaze is always focused on objects and spaces. Her practice most often includes collecting and working with discarded or forgotten materials. Shifting through a self-created playing field between photography, sculpture and design, she searches for the relationship between three-dimensional objects and their two-dimensional representation. "The past plays an important role in my work. The concept of leftovers has always fascinated me. I'm intrigued by traces of what's left behind; a material or a place, affected by nature or human usage. The poetry of imperfection inspires me to explore how an object, or a place can over time become an 'unintentional' monument. Similar to the country of my birth, Yugoslavia - it no longer exists but it survives in 'second-hand' memories, monuments, objects and architecture. Through my work I am rediscovering and recontextualizing the past - materializing a history that might no longer be visible"

**WEBSITES** 

www.majdavidakovic.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/majdakovic/

**PLATFORM** 

msimons gallery

## **EDUCATION**

2021 - European Ceramic Workcentre ekwc2022

2009 - Fotografie Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie

2015 van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

2024 By the Means at Hand Venice Biennale
/ Croatian pavillion Venice, Italy I was
invited to participate in the project by
Vlatka Horvat, who is representing this
years Croatian pavillion. "Engaging with
the theme of Adriano Pedrosa's main
exhibition for La Biennale di Venezia,
"Stranieri Ovunque – Foreigners
Everywhere," Vlatka Horvat's project for
the Croatian Pavilion, curated by
Antonia Majaca, will exist as an

# INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2023	PADA Studios Lisbon, Portugal www.padastudios.com/
2022	EKWC - European Ceramic Workcenter, Oisterwijk, NL Oisterwijk, Netherlands <u>ekwc.nl/en/</u>
2019	KAMEN Artist Residency Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina <u>kamen-</u>

artistresidency.com/

accumulative exhibition of artworks by a wide-ranging group of international artists living "as foreigners," reflecting on questions and urgencies of the diasporic experience. This exhibition will be generated through a social and performative exchange taking place over the course of the Biennale Arte 2024. Horvat will invite artists living in diaspora all over the world to engage in a series of reciprocal exchanges of artworks and other materials, all of which will be sent between Venice and other places by improvised means - via various friends, travelers, and strangers who will be enlisted as informal couriers for the project." www.croatianpavilion2024.com/

2023 Wastescape Notes the Pitcairn
Museum of Contemporary Art
Groningen, Netherlands

pitcairnmuseum.nl/majda-vidakovic/

Solo

Group

Paper Art Blennale 2023 CODA
Museum Apeldoorn, Netherlands
"Vidakovic has made a series of large
totems for CODA Paper Art, using more
than a hundred cardboard pulp
containers. The work is reminiscent of a
ruin, or an archaeology museum
display. It questions whether these
remains can be glued back together,
and whether this reconstruction gives
them a new importance." www.codaapeldoorn.nl/nl/museum/coda-paperart-2023-en/majda-vidakovic
Group

2022 Leftovers Van Nelle Fabriek / Art
Rotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands I
presented my work at the Prospects
exhibition at Art Rotterdam, as one of
the artists who received Artist Start
(Stipendium for Emerging Artists)
www.mondriaanfonds.nl/profiel/majdavidakovic/
Group

2022 LEFTOVERS II M. Simons gallery
Amsterdam, Netherlands "For the
upcoming presentation, Majda
Vidakovic - Leftovers II, the Serbianborn artist Majda Vidakovic selected an
array of sculptures that she has made

Internship with artist Joachim Schmid Berlin, Germany

2013

over the past 3 years. Each object has a serene quality; they're made from natural materials such as wood, ceramics or cardboard. Their mainly monochrome colors hold this same natural quality; hues vary from sand to concrete. Each of the works has been made from, or assembled from found objects. Throughout the 20th century, artists scoured streets, flea markets and scrap yards looking for discarded objects with nostalgic or banal qualities to include them in assemblages, photograph them or display them in their own right. Vidakovic does not look for nostalgia or banality, she seems to specifically select found objects whose potential has not fully been exploited. Take for example the legs of one sculpture from her 'Leftover' series. The two structures that support the sculpture as a whole once served their purpose as CD racks. Made from wood, these pieces of furniture have been designed and crafted to last for decades, eventually outliving the one thing it was designed to hold. Another example found in multiple of Vidakovic's sculptures are cardboard pulp containers. These containers are oddly shaped, made to hold expensive, fragile, contents like televisions, stereos or kitchen appliances. They are built to protect, but as soon as their contents are taken from them, they're without function, but still full of potential. What continuously comes back in Vidakovic's work is the association with artifacts, fossils, mystical symbols and relics different kinds of remains and traces of history, taking on a material form. Whichever material it is, the need to present an object in its 'imperfect' form, by giving it a new platform, reflects on how she deals with the past and where she comes from. Vidakovic makes the link with her native Serbia, a 'leftover' country of now former Yugoslavia - the country that no longer exists, but lives on through memories, monuments, objects and architecture."

www.michielsimons.com/exhibitions/majdavidakovicleftovers-

<u>ii</u>

2020

www.instagram.com/thetinyartgallerythehague/ Group

- 2018 To Reflect To KAF - Kunstlinie Almere Flevoland institute Almere, Netherlands For this group exhibition called 'OVERDAAD' I made a commissioned work called 'To Reflect To'. The theme was about the overload of images and information that we consume daily. All the artists reflected on the theme, some already known works and some new. My work was about the basic experience on reflection using mirrors and other reflective materials. It's about how to experience images in a space without looking at images and video, but being surprised what light and colours can do. Online our perception of materials has become much more vague and our curiosity is easily fed but short lived. In a physical space, reflections created by mirrors, glass and light create new perspectives and angles which can surprise us; perspectives that might not be noticable in the digital world. kaf.nl/expo/overdaad/ Group
- 2017 Pot Trouvé Designkwartier 2017 Den Haag, Netherlands This project examines form and material in order to be able to look at contemporary materials of western culture. How does the pot of our time look like? How can we represent the future finds, looking through the glasses of the traditional past. <a href="festivaldesignkwartier.nl/">festivaldesignkwartier.nl/</a>
- 2017 Everything is Editable KABK Koninlijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten Den Haag, Netherlands Group
- 2016 A Passing Space Salone de Mobile
  Milan, Italy This project was a
  collaboration with Lorena van
  Bunningen, which was part of the a
  group exhibition 'RESET' organized by
  the Royal Academy of Arts, The Hague
  Group
- 2016 Did you mean: anything else part IIFotopub festival Novo Mesto, Slovenia

## fotopub.com/ Group

- 2016 Did you mean: anything else part II
  Kadmium Delft Delft, Netherlands
  www.kadmium.nl/
  Group
- 2015 Did you mean: anything else Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten, Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands Graduation show Group
- 2015 Melkweg Gallery, Amsterdam Together with my fellow photography graduate students of the Royal Academy of Art. 'Introducing 'DEAR...': The Printfactory' we organized and put together is a popup printsale at the Melkweg gallery in Amsterdam. The concept was selling one photo per person and having a print-on-demand set up in the gallery itself.

  Group

de Spanjaardshof, Den Haag This exhibition was organised by the artists who share the old building of Spanjaardshof in the Hague. The idea of the exhibition was to open their studios to the public but at the same time invite young artists to show their work.

Therefore a mix of the old and the young. Within this exhibition, I showed a preview of my end exam project, 'Did you mean: anything else.'

Group

- 2015 Did you mean: anything else part II
  Stroom Opzicht Den Haag, Netherlands

  www.stroom.nl/activiteiten/kleine\_presentatie.php?

  kt\_id=7308491
  Solo
- 2015 Did you mean: anything else NFM Nederlands Fotomuseum Rotterdam,
  Netherlands Part of the Steenberg
  Stipendium exhibition
  www.nederlandsfotomuseum.nl/tentoonstelling/steenbergenstipendium-2018/
  Group
- 2014 Like Share Follow Museum voor Communicatie, Den Haag Solo

- 2013 NEST, Den Haag As a duo together with Lynne Brouwer, we were chosen to participate in the 'One Nest Stand' - a one evening pop-up group exhibition in a fine art gallery Nest. After two months of guidance by the curator and three visual artists, we developed a project consisting of three parts - a dia slideshow plus a framed print, a publication and an interactive installation. With the title of the exhibition 'Me, Myself and I', Lynne and I made a project based on out amazement which focuses on the art world, and more specifically to the most common forms of presentation; why they have value and status? Group
- -- Leftovers Lola Luid Amsterdam, Netherlands Solo

## **COMMISSIONS**

- 'Hoe leerlingen zich technologie meester maken' De Correspondent Amsterdam, Netherlands A series of nine images I made for online newspaper De Correspondent about MakerEd in schools and how students can become masters of technology. The objects are their creations decorrespondent.nl/8087/hoe-leerlingen-zich-technologie-meester-maken/642536411-c4b8d40d finished
- 'Hoe leerlingen zich technologie meester maken' De Correspondent Zutphen, Netherlands A series of nine images I made for online newspaper De Correspondent about MakerEd in schools and how students can become masters of technology. The objects are their creations

  decorrespondent.nl/8087/hoe-leerlingen-zich-technologie-meester-maken/642536411-c4b8d40d finished
- 2018 Prix de Rome Architecture Het Nieuwe Instituut Rotterdam, Netherlands I made a series of photograph of all the

# SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2016 Rijnstate Hospital Arnhem, Nederland I sold a part of my graduation work - Did you mean: anything else - to the permanent collection of the Rijnstate hospital in Arnhem. The work is on permanent show in the hospital.

works of the architects that were nominated for the Prix de Rome

- 2017 'Hoe het toeval carrières maakt of breekt' De Correspondent Amsterdam , Netherlands finished
- 2017 'Je moet je fouten juist niet goedmaken' De Correspondent Amsterdam, Netherlands finished
- 2014 Like Share Follow Museum voor
  Communicatie Den Haag, Nederaland
  Like Share Follow An Installation
  meant to visually illustrate digital
  communication through social media;
  giving new perspective and side of the
  museum finished

## **PUBLICATIONS**

# 2015 Did you mean: anything else Selfpublished, Designed by Sha Yee Jin, Den Haag Catalogus/kunsternaatsboek

2013 The ABC of Popular Desire selfpublished Berlin , Germany In collaboration with Joachim Schmid

# **AWARDS AND GRANTS**

2019	Mondriaan fonds, Amsterdam Amsterdam,
	Netherlands Stipendium for Emerging
	Artists / Artist Start

- 2019 (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands PRO Grant - Research/ residency
- The Steenbergen Stipendium for
  Photography is a scholarship that exists
  since 1998. Annually it's awarded to a
  student from one of the accredited
  photography departments from all Dutch
  Art Academies. An independent jury judges
  all of the work of all exa steenbergen
  stipendium

## REPRESENTATION

M.Simons gallery Amsterdam,
Netherlands
www.michielsimons.com/artists/majdavidakovic



The Other Side, 2024 Stainless steel mesh, jute , 29.7 cm x 42 cm  $\,$ 



Inside Out, 2024



Fellow Feeling, 2023 Woven wood, glass, marble with rope, 100x67cm



For The Time Being / Por Enquanto, 2023 stacked cut out cardboard filters, 200x25cm



For The Time Being / Por Enquanto, 2023 stacked cut out cardboard filters, 200x25cm



Vestiges, 2023 Cardboard pulp, metal, Various sizes /





Vestiges, 2023 Cardboard pulp



Wastescape Notes, 2023 multimedia installation, various sizes



Soliter, 2022 Glazed ceramics, 70 x 26 x 26 cm