



VISITOR'S GUIDE

FALKE PISANO

*THE VALUE IN
MATHEMATICS*

EXHIBITION FROM 19 MARCH
TO 29 MAY

Language, whether oral or written, gestural or graphical, has always been one of Falke Pisano's central preoccupations. Her installations, sculptures, drawings, diagrams and speech-performances approach the mastery of language and discourse as an emancipation factor that enables individuals to responsibly make themselves part of the world.

Her research has been divided into long cycles. The first, from 2007 to 2010, was entitled Figures of Speech. In 2011, she began another cycle revolving around the notion of Body in Crisis. The project she is presenting at the Synagogue de Delme constitutes the first part of a new research cycle on the development of the sciences in modern times and the way its institutions have contributed to a restricted and exclusive idea of knowledge. Focussing on mathematics, the exhibition presents an exploration with very broad implications that challenges this science's universalist, absolute approach, as well as the objectivity and neutrality that are automatically attributed to it.

The project was first presented at the gallery at REDCAT in Los Angeles in 2015, and more recently at the artist's two solo exhibitions, at Hollybush Gardens gallery in London and Ellen de Bruijne gallery in Amsterdam. The art centre is presenting a new step in the journey of this project, which is meant to evolve and get richer over time.

Mathematics visibly or invisibly infuses everyday life, social relations, economics, industry, military strategy, architecture... It is ubiquitous, and yet most of the time its concrete applications elude the understanding we might have of the world around us; thus this world stays out of reach and we risk becoming passive subjects who blindly submit to laws we have not mastered.

If mathematics is commonly treated as a universal language that carries no system of cultural values, Falke Pisano instead stresses notions of diversity, pluralism and heterogeneity, and is interested in critical theories that offer another way of approaching mathematics, its history and its teaching methods.

Although $1+1=2$ appears to be a widely accepted truth in Western culture, one must recognise that in other cultures, $1+1 \neq 2$. In this sense, the field of ethno-mathematics opens a new realm of thought, negotiation and knowledge-translation that makes it possible to take account of cultural diversity and the coexistence of several approaches, capable of interacting with one another in a respectful, egalitarian way.

The exhibition presented at the Synagogue de Delme brings together a series of sculptures, objects and texts, as well as a film, which materialise questions raised by the artist. In the exhibition one finds for example a transaction counter, a nautical chart and a weaving frame. In the film, Falke Pisano activates these different objects through gestures and words in a joint interview with an anthropologist and a researcher in mathematics education, who speak of their field experiences linked to teaching. We are given to understand that mathematics education and its teaching methods can also become tools of resistance against a dominant culture.

In a Western society where social relations are above all dominated by the logic of capital quantification and accumulation, Falke Pisano recalls the possibility of a kind of social relations primarily determined by their quality. From this perspective, learning to count differently would make it possible to name the world differently, while making it one's own, with respect for the multiplicity of differing points of view. The film concludes with these words: "If we don't allow this variation, this plurality, then... won't we be doomed?"

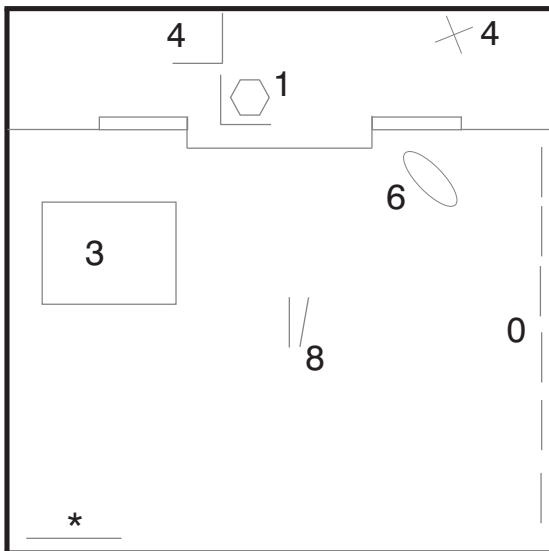
BIOGRAPHY

Falke Pisano (Amsterdam) lives and works in Berlin. Her diagrammatic works expose a loop, in which shifting abstract sculptural forms are conceived directly in relation to written and spoken language, implying an ongoing and morphing production of meaning. In the publication 'Figures of Speech' (designed and co-edited by Will Holder, published by JRPRingier, Christoph Keller Editions, 2010) Pisano brought together her work focusing on the act of speech in relation to different forms of agency in artistic production. The artist second cycle of works (2011-) "The Body in Crisis" consists of a series of propositions and inquiries that look at the body in crisis as an ongoing event.

Pisano's solo exhibitions include Praxes, Berlin (2014), The Showroom, London (April 2013), Ellen de Bruijne Projects (Amsterdam, 2007, 2011) Hollybush Gardens (London, 2009, 2012), De Vleeshal (Middelburg, 2012), CAC (with Benoit Maire, Vilnius, 2011), Transmission Gallery (Glasgow, 2010), Extra City (Antwerp, 2010), Kunstverein (Graz, 2009) and Halle für Kunst e.V. (Lüneburg, 2008). She participated in major groups shows such as the Venice Biennial (2009) and Manifesta (2008). She performed at Museo Reina Sofia (2012), the 5th Berlin Biennale (2008) and Lisson Gallery, London (2007).

FLOOR PLAN :

Ground floor :



*. *The value in mathematics (script)*, 2015, digital print on archival paper, 80 x 80 cm

0. *Fragmenting that seems continuous and universal*, 2015, white pie-pieces in wood with deconstructed spiral in metal, 80 x 80 cm each and wall panel with text, 43 x 28 cm

1. Ground floor

Exchanging one for plural, 2015, Sprayed metal, wood, fabric, thread, wire, installation consisting of two sculptures, 150 x 150 x 84 cm et 230 x 250 x 100 cm and wall panel with text, 43 x 28 cm

1. Upper level

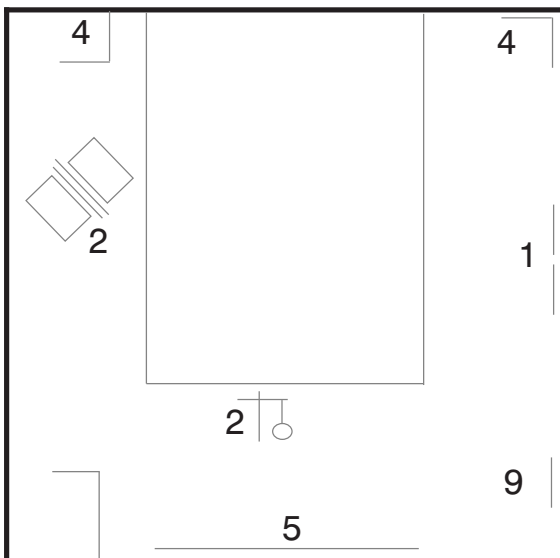
Exchanging one for plural (blue), 2015, fabric, thread, wire, 150 x 125 x 3 cm

Exchanging one for plural (yellow), 2015, fabric, thread, wire, 150 x 125 x 3 cm

2. *Negotiations in exchange*, 2015, metal, wood, ceramics, felt, 172 x 138 x 155 cm and wood, felt, plastic, rope, scales sculpture, 160 x 220 x 28 cm and wall panel with text, 43 x 28 cm

3. *Reading the world with mathematics*, 2015, metal, wood, paint, 175 x 230 x 70 cm and wall panel with text, 43 x 28 cm

Upper level :



4. Ground floor

Learning in proximity, 2015, wood, fabric, paper, pencil, 88,5 x 45,5 x 69 cm and wood, paper pencil, 27,6 x 42,6 cm

4. Upper level

Learning in proximity, 2015, wood, paper, pencil, 47,5 x 36 cm and wood, leather, 54,5 x 36,5 x 36,5 cm and wall panel with text, 43, 28 cm

5. *The logic of the detail*, 2015, vinyl wall text, 480 x 220 cm and wall panel with text, 43 x 28 cm

6. *Changing perspectives*, 2015, wooden sticks, thread, felt, coins, 260 x 135 x 1 cm and wall panel with text, 43 x 28 cm

8. *Accepting two accounts to be equally valuable*, 2015, aluminum, microphone stands, paint, 140 x 60 x 130 cm and wall panel with text, 43 x 28 cm

9. *Future mathematics ?*, 2015, wall panel with text, 43 x 28 cm

The value in mathematics (language), 2015, video, 20 minutes

EXHIBITION-RELATED EVENT

TOUR OF THE EXHIBITION BY MARIE COZETTE, DIRECTOR OF THE ART CENTRE

Sunday 24 April - 4 pm

“BIG IDEAS, SMALL HANDS” WORKSHOP > FOR CHILDREN FROM 6 TO 11 YEARS OLD

Wednesday 13 April : 2 - 5 pm

Animated by Emeline Socheleau, head of educational program, and Katia Mourer, artist, this workshop allows children to explore the current exhibition through a playful and practical approach of the works on display. Free, upon reservation.

“HAND IN HAND” WORKSHOP > FOR FAMILIES

Saturday 23 April : 3 - 5 PM

The art centre is offering a workshop for children and their parents! Whether you're young or not so-young, come and have fun playfully discovering works and being creative in connection with the exhibition The value in mathematics.

For children aged 5 to 12 accompanied by their parents. Free, upon reservation.

PRACTICAL INFORMATIONS

Exhibition open :

Wednesday-Saturday: 2-6pm.

Sunday: 11am-6pm. Free entrance.

Guided Tour every Sunday at 4pm.

The art centre will be closed on 1st may.

CONTACT / EDUCATION SERVICE

Emeline Socheleau

publics@cac-synagoguedelme.org

+33(0)3 87 01 43 42

PARTNERS

Falke Pisano's exhibition in Delme follows a project of the same name presented at the gallery at REDCAT in Los Angeles from May to June 2015.

The film screened in the exhibition is the fruit of a co-production with the Beaufort Triennial, where it was exhibited from June to September 2015.



La synagogue de Delme Centre for Contemporary Art is a member of DCA-Association pour le Développement des Centres d'Art, Art en Résidence and Lora - Lorraine Art Contemporain.



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La synagogue de Delme Centre for Contemporary Art is grateful for support from :



