

TERESA SOLAR

(Madrid, Spain. 1985)

Teresa Solar works across sculpture, video, drawing and photography. Her audio-visual practice has been mostly focused on language, translation, and the construction of meaning. These topics remain at the core of her practice, but nowadays they are tackled mainly through sculpture. The tactile quality is fundamental in the artist's sculptural practice, which focuses mainly on ceramics but also includes materials like fabric or metal.

Solar's imaginary has a strong narrative drive and her creative process often begins with the discovery of a story or an idea that she later explores in depth. Her exhibitions usually function as an entire whole, creating complex worlds that either draw from literary works of fiction, Natural History or more terrestrial narratives that are close to her personal story. Her exhibition *Flotation Line* at Der Tank in Basel drew from universal works such as Thomas Hobbes's *Leviathan* and Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* while in *Ride, ride, ride* at Matadero Madrid the central figure was Nut, the Goddess of the Night in Ancient Egypt, a celestial creature that connects to her family history.

The daughter of a Spanish father and an Egyptian mother, Solar speaks Arabic, but she can't read or write it, and this circumstance has greatly imbued her work, in which everything is a game with transit, language and its changing translation processes. The cultural and linguistic implications of her dual identity are palpable in her work as she constantly explores the transformation of matter, her objects constituting a hybrid between the manmade, the natural and the mythical.

Teresa Solar studied Fine Arts in Madrid and later graduated with an MA in Cultural Studies from UEM (Universidad Europea de Madrid).

Recent solo shows include *Pumping Station* at Travesía Cuatro Mexico City, Mexico; *Ride, Ride, Ride* at Matadero Madrid and Index Foundation, Stockholm and *Flotation Line* at Der TANK, Institut Kunst in Basel. She has taken part in group shows at Museo Patio Herreriano, Valladolid, Spain; CA2M, Madrid, Spain; Haus der Kunst, München, Fundación Marcelino Botín, Santander; Maxxi, Rome; General Public in Berlin; Kunstverein München; CA2M, Madrid and La Casa Encendida, Madrid.

She was a fellow at Akademie Schloss Solitude in Stuttgart and a Finalist at the Rolex Mentor & Protégé initiative, both in 2016. In 2018 she took part in the expedition *The Current* organized by TBA21-Academy and she conducted the workshop *White Whale, Palace of a Thousand Courtyards*, at Tabakalera San Sebastián. She took part in KölnSkulptur #9 curated by Chus Martínez in Cologne (2017-2019).

In 2020 she will take part in the Liverpool Biennial curated by Manuela Moscoso.