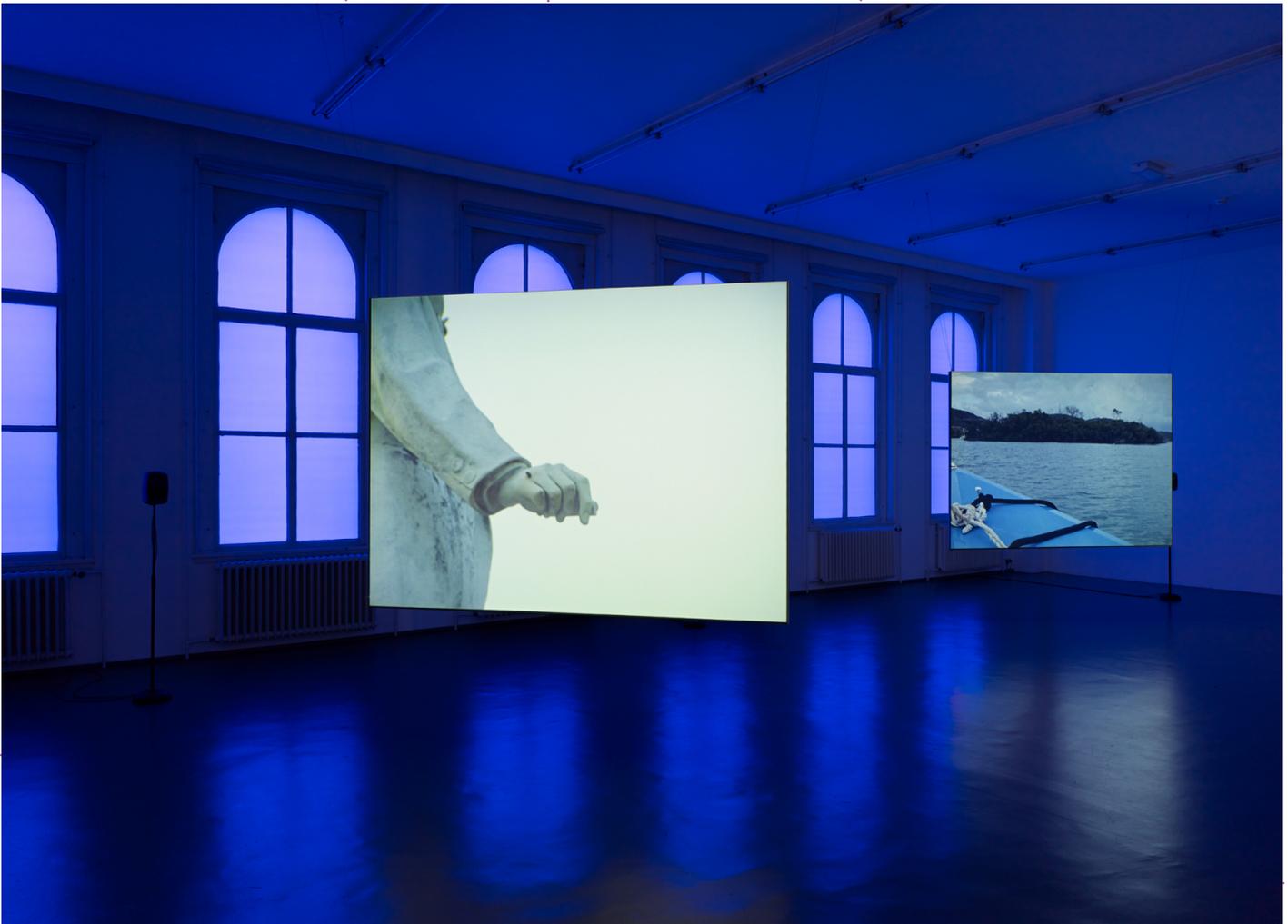


Beatriz

Santiago
Muñoz

The travel
of the
dream



The point upon which it turns, 2022.

The artist Beatriz Santiago Muñoz makes art works in the form of films. Sometimes she displays them next to her film objects and drawings. The artist lives on the island of Puerto Rico. This island is located in the Caribbean Sea. A lot of films Beatriz Santiago Muñoz creates are about the history of Puerto Rico. In Puerto Rico, people speak Spanish, because the island used to be a part of Spain. The Spanish occupied the island around the year 1493. Many years later the island was taken over by the United States of America and is still today an American territory. Do you see the light in the rooms is a bit blue? This is because the windows are lined with blue foil. This is part of the artworks makes you feel a bit disoriented, as if you have lost your way for a moment.

The navel of the dream



The point upon which it turns, 2022.

The Navel of the Dream is the title of the exhibition. The exhibition consists of three rooms, and in one of them there are two big screens on which different movies are being played. In the middle you can find a table with a large variety of objects. Together the two screens and the table form an art installation. An art installation is an art piece that is made up of multiple objects. This can be all kinds of things, for example a table with statues around it. The installation Beatriz Santiago Muñoz has created is made out of two films on big screens, drawings and different items. Next to this text, you can see a picture of how all of these components look together.

1a.
Close your eyes and don't think of anything. Now think of the name of the exhibition *The Navel of the Dream* and try to imagine what the meaning of this title could be according to you. Try to picture what this looks like and portray it in your mind. In the square next to this text, you can make a drawing of the picture you came up with in your mind. The drawing does not necessarily need to look good or realistic.

Story without a beginning or an end



El cuervo, la fosa y la yegua, 2021.

When the artist makes a film, she often works on different stories at the same time. This is the reason why some of the stories are mixed and that we don't really know when which story begins or ends. The artist says one story should be like a whisper into the ear of another story.

2a.
Above you can see a picture of one of the films in the exhibition. Cross out the words you find that do not fit the art piece until only two words remain.

2b.
Have another look at the picture of the art piece. Come up with a story inspired by the picture, and write down in the square next to this text the beginning of it. Include the two words you haven't used previously into the story.

Puerto Rico

navel

Spanish

chaos

dream

pink

story

flight

sea

car

history

flower

nature

landscape

lost

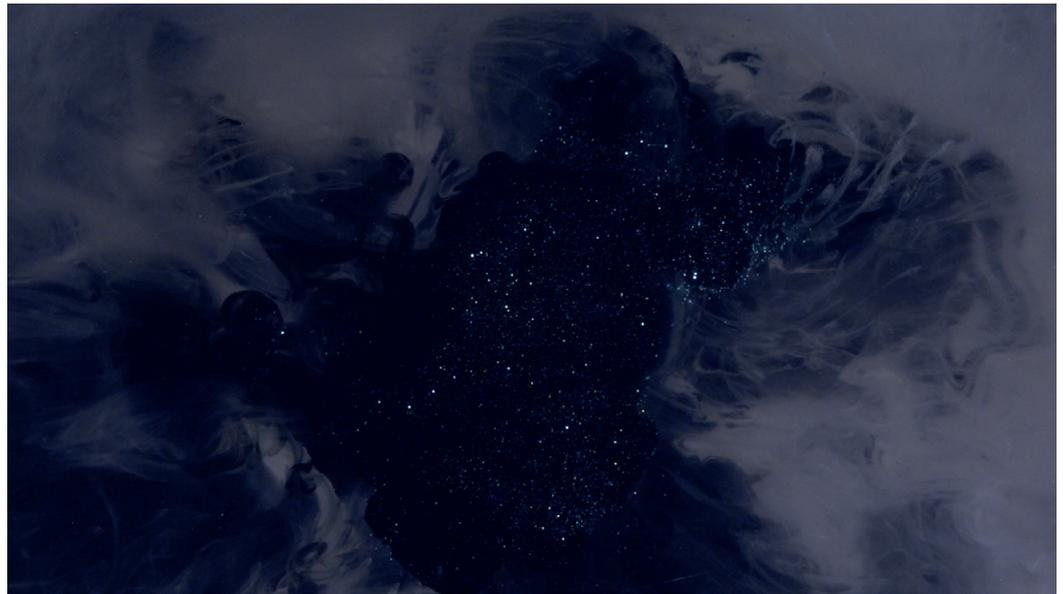
animals

floating

hunger

Two stories, two portraits

The film *The Raven, The Trench and The Mare* is a part of the exhibition named *The Navel of the Dream*. In this film two different stories are being told at the same time. While watching the film, you can switch from one story to another.



El cuervo, la fosa y la yegua, 2021.

One of those stories is about a man called Guy Régis who lives on the island of Haïti. This man translated the book *In Search of Lost Time* from French to Haitian Creole. This book was written by the famous author Marcel Proust. The writer lived in France from 1871 till 1922.

Haitian Creole is the common language spoken on the island Haiti. The language is a combination of French which was the language of the coloniser, and various African languages that were taken to the island by African enslaved people during colonial times. The artist thinks Régis' translation is not really a translation but more an art piece on its own, just like when you make a painting or a portrait of someone. You experience the person in a different way. The artist wants us to realise we don't always need to understand everything, but how we experience the world around us is the most important.

3a.
Choose someone to work together with or use a mirror or a phone in which you can see yourself.

3b.
Find a piece of white paper that is good for drawing, a pencil and a hard surface, like a book on which you can make the drawing.

3c.
Sit down on two chairs opposite each other if you work together; or sit down in front of your mirror or phone if you are working on your own.

3d.
Set the timer on your phone for one minute and look at each other's faces at or your own face in the mirror.

3e.
Write around the circle on the next page four characteristics or things you notice about the other or yourself.

3f.
Set the timer now on five minutes and make a portrait of the other person or yourself in the circle. Use the characteristics you wrote down in your drawing. The drawing does not have to be perfect or look realistic!

3g.
By making this drawing you have made a unique translation of the other person – or yourself – into an art piece. If you have did this exercise together, exchange your drawings with your teammate and tell them what you find remarkable in the drawing they made of you.

3h.
Now you can take a picture of your drawing and email it to activiteiten@kunstinstituutmelly.nl We will share the picture of your art piece on Melly's website!

Tip! In need of some inspiration? Have a look at our website by clicking [this link](#).

Two stories, two portraits

Kunstinstituut Melly

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