

Inari Sandell

Butterfly Logic

26.04 – 07.07.2024

We Will Keep Each Other Company When It Grows Dark

Season of exhibitions in Espai 13 of the Fundació Joan Miró

02.02.2024 – 19.01.2025

A season curated by Irina Mutt

With the support of the Banco Sabadell Foundation

Press release

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***Butterfly Logic* takes as its starting point the survival strategies used by these insects. One of the ways they evade predators is by flying in an unpredictable and chaotic manner. Sandell invites us to transpose these patterns of behaviour into the social sphere.**

The images and objects shown in *Butterfly Logic* present nexuses and paradoxes with various elements and materials used in regulatory treatments for autism. Sandell combines in it fragility (glass, textiles and transparent effects) with hardness (edges, spikes and metals).

***We Will Keep Each Other Company When It Grows Dark* is the Espai 13 season presented by the Fundació Joan Miró for 2024 with the support of the Fundació Banco Sabadell. Curated by Irina Mutt, the season stems from a desire to situate interdependence, to explain it and share it through four solo exhibitions in which each artist will present their particular way of being in the world, of managing and agreeing spaces.**

Barcelona, 25 March 2024. *Butterfly Logic*, by Inari Sandell, is the second of the exhibitions in the *We Will Keep Each Other Company When It Grows Dark* season.

In their proposal for Espai 13, Sandell explores some of the discourses and strategies of the psychiatric disciplinary system that have defined the standard narrative regarding neurodiversity and especially the autism spectrum. These repressive disciplines are often aimed at reinforcing the dominant system, to ensure that *everything works*. The control, internment, repression and medication of disruptive agents are at the basis of this regulatory system. Accordingly, discipline and sanctions are intended to preserve what the capitalist system regards as a person's most valuable attributes: their capacity to produce and consume. In response to these structures and discourses surrounding neurodiversity, Sandell proposes an unexpected referent as a form of resistance, the butterfly.

Butterfly Logic takes as its starting point the survival strategies used by these insects. One of the ways they evade predators is by flying in an unpredictable and chaotic manner. Their erratic, zigzagging movements protect them from being caught. Sandell invites us to transpose these patterns of behaviour into the social sphere. Perhaps we might find in the choreography of changeable flight evidence that it may also prove effective with erratic conduct; that it is possible to escape the 'logic' of the system precisely by means of another logic.

The images and objects shown in *Butterfly Logic* present nexuses and paradoxes with various elements and materials used in regulatory treatments for autism. Sandell combines in it fragility (glass, textiles and transparent effects) with hardness (edges, spikes and metals).

The artist took most of the photographs and recorded the video in the exhibition during a visit to the natural history museum in Copenhagen. Whereas museums of this kind encapsulate and show nature in an artificially idealised state, Sandell's gaze focuses on the structural features of the buildings in which this nature is contained and museographically presented. Sandell's images highlight not flowers and plants but the architecture that delimits the space, metal pipes and air conduits, columns and walls. Everything with which the museum safeguards and at the same time confines what it holds. In this respect, the exhibition situates itself in search of what happens at thresholds, there where everything remains potential and in progress, in a fragile balance between danger and hope. Sandell applies in it a reasoning that circumvents the limitations of ableism. Theirs is a disorganised coherence: a butterfly logic.

The artist's work has been supported by Frame Contemporary Art Finland and the Alfred Kordelin Foundation.



Inari Sandell, *Butterfly Logic* (series), 2022–24. Photograph: Claudia Hausfeld

Inari Sandell (Lahti, Finland, 1991) lives and works in Helsinki. Their audiovisual and sculptural work takes the form of installations that address themes such as neurodivergence, accessibility and sensory experience linked to the post-digital and post-human millennial existence. They hold an MFA in Time and Space Arts from Uniarts Helsinki (2023), a BA in Media Studies from the University of Turku (2020) and a

BFA in Photography from the Turku Arts Academy (2016). Their praxis also includes self-publishing and curating.

Their work has been shown internationally in galleries, museums and festivals that include the UKS (Unge Kunstneres Samfund / Young Artists' Society, Oslo, 2023), Hafnarborg Centre of Culture and Fine Art (Iceland, 2023), SÍM Korpúlfsstaðir (Reykjavik, 2023), Kaiku Gallery (Helsinki, 2022), Titanik Gallery (Turku, 2021), SIC (Helsinki, 2019), Finnish Cultural Institute (New York, 2021) and Athens Photo Festival (Athens, 2016).

Upcoming exhibitions in the *We Will Keep Each Other Company When It Grows Dark* season:

Danielle Brathwaite-Shirley

19.07 – 20.10.2024

Danielle Brathwaite-Shirley will present *My mirror on fire*, an installation in which the audience is invited to confront their own fear. The choices you make in the space will determine what you see, what you must face and ultimately decide if you are ready to deal with your own failings. This isn't about supporting anyone anymore; it's about finding out who you really are and staring yourself in the face. As a result, audiences ponder deeply on issues around supremacy, violence, communities and responsibilities.



Danielle Brathwaite-Shirley, *I Need Your Help / Tá Do Chúnamh Ag Teastáil Uaim*, 2022. Installation view at Projects Art Centre, Dublin

Helena Vinent

31.10.2024 – 19.01.2025

This artist from Barcelona will create a space in which fiction and reality cease to be excluding binarisms. Vinent will be presenting a crip band or gang that will activate and reclaim the space by bursting into the exhibition room or even spilling out beyond it, while putting into circulation ideas and concepts to do with access, pleasure and desire. Thanks to the force of the group, rather than asking for permission or adapting to the system, this system will be assaulted, brought to a halt. Espai 13 will become the possible setting in which non-normative bodies will cease to be docile and will instead become a danger, a threat that will rock normality.

Teo Ala-Ruona

Performance to close the season

Saturday 25 January 2025

The season will close with a performance by the Finnish artist Teo Ala-Ruona about trans corporeality as a phantasmagorical and transcendental experience.

Images and material for the press are available at

<https://www.fmirobcn.org/en/foundation/press/> and at

<https://bit.ly/EnsAcompanyaremEspai13>. You can follow Espai 13 activities on social media using the hashtag [#EnsAcompanyaremEspai13](https://bit.ly/EnsAcompanyaremEspai13)