

NOME

SYNDEMIC STUDIES  
VOLUSPA JARPA  
MARCH 20 – MAY 14, 2021

NOME is pleased to announce Voluspa Jarpa's exhibition *Syndemic Studies*, curated by Tiago de Abreu Pinto. *Syndemic Studies* is the study-phase of the project SINDEMIA, with which Jarpa won the inaugural Julius Baer Art Prize for Latin American Female Artists, in collaboration with the Modern Art Museum in Bogota – MAMBO (2021).

The term syndemic was introduced in the 1990s in the field of medical anthropology to describe the synergistic nature of disease, namely how a disease interacts with other illnesses. In *Syndemic Studies* Jarpa diagnoses the multiple, intertwined maladies currently affecting her native Chile. Between October 2019 and June 2020, Chile's citizens witnessed one crisis after another. A social revolt spread through the streets of the country's cities that was sparked by a raise in subway fares but quickly extended to encompass broader issues related to economic and social inequality.

Deemed a "social outbreak," a term typically applied to the spread of illness, the gatherings that ensued in public space produced new constellations of what theorist Ariella Azoulay calls "the civil language of revolution." Consisting of sets of gestures, movements, signs, sounds, and images that both transcend and undermine contemporary geopolitical borders, this language can be spoken by anyone, "but never alone, its statements are made of many and by the many." Voluspa Jarpa draws upon the visual vocabulary from this social shock to create a series of new works that explore the languages of power and resistance. The pellets used to purposefully blind demonstrators and the lasers used by protestors to confound the police appear in different formations in a series of "studies," including a laser installation, a "floating" sculpture comprised of metal pellets, and prints of bullet ridden trees.

**Voluspa Jarpa** (b.1971, Rancagua, Chile) lives and works in Santiago de Chile. Her work has been exhibited in significant solo exhibitions internationally, including *Cuerpo político: archivos públicos y secretos* at the Gabriela Mistral Gallery of the Universidad de Chile (2017); *En nuestra pequeña región de por acá* at the MALBA, Buenos Aires (2016); She has participated in many international exhibitions including: *Altered Views*, Chilean Pavilion at the 58<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale, Italy (2019); BIENALSUR, Riyadh and Buenos Aires (2019); *Artists & Agents – Performance Art and Secret Services* (winner of the AICA "Exhibition of the Year" Award in 2020), HMKV, Dortmund, Germany, 2019; *Proregress*, 12<sup>th</sup> Shanghai Biennial (2018); *Parapolitics: Cultural Freedom and the Cold War* in the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin (2017-2018); *Resistance Performed – Aesthetic Strategies under Repressive Regimes in Latin America*, at the Migros Museum, Zurich (2016); 31<sup>st</sup> Sao Paulo Biennial, Brazil (2014); 12<sup>th</sup> Istanbul Biennial (2011).

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Poisdamer Str. 72 - 10785 - Berlin

N O M E

***Syndemic Studies***

**Voluspa Jarpa**

**Curated by Tiago de Abreu Pinto**

**20 March – 14 May 2021**

**Opens on 20 March, 4–9pm**

**Potsdamer Str. 72**

**IMPORTANT:**

According to the current regulation, **visits are possible by appointment only**. Please contact us at [info@nomegallery.com](mailto:info@nomegallery.com).

The exhibition opens on March, 20<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 9pm. From March, 23<sup>rd</sup> we open Tuesdays to Sundays from 1 to 6pm.

**Press contact**

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