



Mediatiedote / Vapaa julkaistavaksi

B-galleria

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Ti–Pe / Tis–Fre / Tue–Fri 12–18
La–Su / Lör–Sön / Sat–Sun 12–16

Saara Kumpulainen: Cry it away
B-gallery 14- 25.8.2019
Openings on Tuesday 13.8 klo 18-20. Welcome!

I'm inspired by the symbolic meanings of everyday objects and materials. I have used paper tissues as material for my projects for 15 years. First, I made birds out of them but my style has gradually developed to be increasingly minimalistic and conceptual. I have noticed that paper tissues are an allegory in themselves. Tissues are pathetic, but also fragile, sensitive and somehow even noble. I find the white, always slightly wrinkled surface is very aesthetic. They represent sorrow and comfort.

Why do I examine sorrow? Maybe it is feeling I find difficult to face, but which is impossible to avoid. What is one allowed to grieve for? What must one grieve for? How deep into one's sorrows is it suitable to dive? As a woman, I belong to a group for which crying and mourning without shame is more permissible, but why am I allowed to grieve and not all genders? Often, sorrow is not just sorrow, but a mix of feelings, there may be also fear, longing, hate, love, loss, jealousy, gentleness, etc...and consolation.

We encounter sorrow in our own lives and the lives of our dear ones. Stories and art allow us to grieve for people we do not know personally, and even fictional characters. Some sorrows pass easily, others leave heavy weights behind. When we get over mourning, our breathing feels easier and we feel a pinch stronger. For me crying is good way to grieve. The sorrows flow out as tears and disappear into tissue paper (or your sleeve). In this exhibition I have investigated different kinds of sorrows through the material dimension of grief and tears. It is my first private exhibition. The works are based on my own sorrows and those of others, sorrows which are still lurking inside and those which have melted away. They are about grief, but also about consolation.

Collective Tear is an installation which visitors can participate in. You can sprinkle your sorrows as salt into the water and watch how they melt into a Collective Tear. The bowls are made of tissue paper clay. The process of making the clay demands tearing, smashing, soaking and finally re-modelling the material. The tissue paper burns away in the kiln but makes the clay stronger and

lighter. The Collective Tear will console all – regardless of who is grieving or what size the sorrow is. Everyone has the right to participate - like everyone should be able to express their feelings of sorrow without shame. I will take good care of The Collective Tear. After the exhibition The Tear will become a part of something even bigger – I will pour it into the sea in a beautiful place.

I thank all the dear people who have supported and helped me building the exhibition. Liedon Kiviliike, thanks for the marble. Contact: Saara Kumpulainen (saara.reetta@gmail.com)