

PRESS RELEASE

Fracture – Bruch | Elisabeth Penker

Wed. 21. January – Fri. 6. March 2026

Opening: Tuesday 20. January, 6 – 9 PM

Opening performance: Peter Kraus

Opening Speech: Michael Scott Hall

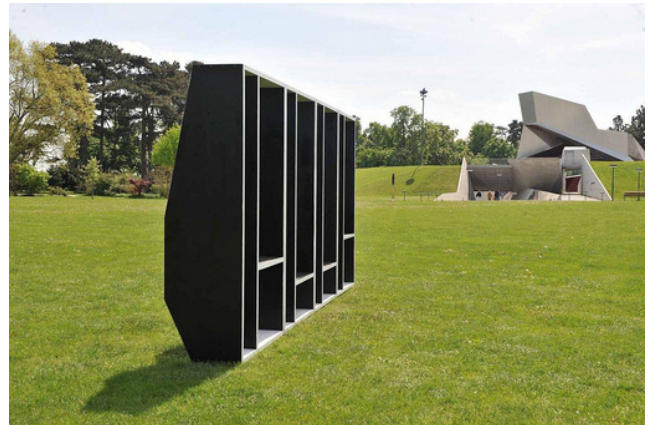
About the Exhibition

Fracture – Bruch Fracture combines Penker's sculptural investigations with acoustic elements, creating an immersive space in which visual and auditory experiences interact. The title stands for rupture and continuity – a central theme in Penker's work, which deconstructs cultural forms and reconstructs them into new hybrid systems of representation.

Artistic Practice

Elisabeth Penker combines sculpture and sound art, exploring the spatial dynamics between objects and acoustic phenomena. Based on linguistic structures, she investigates relationships between visual and musical grammars of different cultures.

Her series 'Split Representation' is based on Claude Lévi-Strauss' essay, in which she compares visual styles from the Shang Dynasty to the Haida Gwaii, Caduveo and Maori. These cultures do not depict the face frontally, but as two joined profiles. Penker transfers this methodology to portraits of philosophers, anthropologists, psychoanalysts and cultural scientists, creating hybrid forms that combine Western and non-Western concepts of representation.



Composition with one twisted tone. Schloß Grafenegg, NÖ Kunst im öffentlichen Raum, NÖ, 2017, acrylic on larch wood, 526 x 226 x 46 cm

Biography

Elisabeth Penker (born 1974, Reisseck, Mölltal, Austria) studied sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna under Bruno Gironcoli (1993–1998) and at the National Academy of Fine Arts in Oslo (1998). In 2006, she completed theoretical research at the Jan Van Eyck Academy in Maastricht with the feminist research group FO/GO Lab. Her works have been exhibited internationally, including

Temporary Services, Chicago 'Hard C.O.R.E Congress of Racial Equality (curated by Brett Bloom, 'Public Art Lower Austria-Schloss Grafenegg; Curated by Cornelia Offergeld, Belvedere 21er Haus, (curated by Severin Dünser / Luisa Ziaja; Kunsthaus Graz /Curated by Adam Budak & Christine Peters), Sound Art . Dessert Los Angeles,(CA/USA) Studio Andrea Fraser (Curated by Heather Hubbs); BPalacio De Christal Porto 'First Story' (curated by Ute Meta Bauer) MAK Vienna (Curated By Andreas Kristof), WIELS (curated by Michael Scott Hall) Brussels, Kunsthalle Brands (curated by Jakob Fabricius), HTTP Gallery London (Curated by Tobi Maier) and at Documenta 12 in Kassel invited by Ricardo Basbaum with Fo/Go Lab (2007). Sound System, Salzburger Kunstverein (curated by Edek Bartz & Hildegund Amanshauser), Institute for Contemporary Art, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (curated by Ute Meta Bauer) 1993 'Free Academy Moscow', curated by Alexander Petlura, born in Ukraine; Onomotapee Eibndhofen (curated by Kris Dittel). She lives and works in Vienna and Mölltal.

Related Links

<https://www.falstaff.com/living/news/studio-visit-elisabeth-penker-kunst-zum-bewohnen>

https://www.charimgalerie.at/artist/elisabeth_penker

<https://www.artforum.com/events/elisabeth-penker-181246/>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Ceqqt6zqsEp/?igsh=MTN2MWpkNWt0czZoNA==>

https://www.instagram.com/p/DGDYQ5JKMke/?img_index=2&igsh=eXhpN2dnNHlmNmd5

[Studio Visit Elisabeth Penker: Kunst zum Bewohnen - Falstaff Living](#)

[Festwochen with Van Angh \(Chello\) Trih Minh Ha \(Electronic Music\) Kaoss Pad Untiteled Instrument](#) <https://www.youtube.com/user/soundart24>

<https://www.onomatopee.net/exhibition/split-representation/>

<https://www.artforum.com/columns/cathryn-drake-at-the-18th-art-athina-216822/>

[Peter Kraus on Instagram: "TODAY AT MASC FOUNDATION R O O M S BY CHIEREGHIN & KRAUS 18 : 00"splitartprojects on Instagram: "Amazing @peter.kraus.583234 and @pablochiereghin with RAUM G! Spannung/ tension/ tentio Performances @splitartprojects"](#)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chicago_Project_Room

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