



planta₁

Zilla Leutenegger

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**The spiral stair
to planta₁**

15 September
→ 21 October 2023

Wandel
treppe
escalera de
caracol

Since 2004, when Zilla Leutenegger (Switzerland, 1968) **began her series of video installations based on the different spaces that make up a home, the artist has developed several more, which will be completed in the coming days of September 2023 with *Spiral stair to planta1*. Object, video projection and sound. 2023.**

This work gives title to the solo exhibition by this renowned artist to be held in Madrid.

The project refers to planta1's first space in Madrid, located on the first floor of an industrial warehouse building, which the organisation continues to maintain, although it is now located in a street-level space in the Carabanchel district of Madrid.

Continuing with his usual scenes in which reverie and imagination play an overriding role, Zilla suggests that we imagine that the exhibition space has become a kind of duplex apartment in which a person lives, whose shadow we can discover by going up and down the spiral staircase that leads from the first floor to street level.

A study in movement that speaks of the constants in Zilla's work since the beginning of his career: his interest in spaces, the relationships that people have with these spaces and the light,

both natural and artificial, that unfolds its often-magical effects on these spaces and people.

The other two video installations presented by the swiss artist at planta1 are framed within these constants:

***Sleeping Dog (Schlafender Hund)*. Object and Video Projection.**

***Letters and Numbers*. 2022. Installation consisting of wall drawing, wallpaper, and video projection.**

And a fourth piece: ***The daybed*. 2023. Object and monotype, a technique that the artist has recently added to her repertoire, having been invited by the Bündner Kunstmuseum Chur in 2016 to make an exhibition using this technique.**

Drawing allows Zilla to produce works in a very fresh, spontaneous, and gestural way, and it is precisely these qualities that characterise her work.

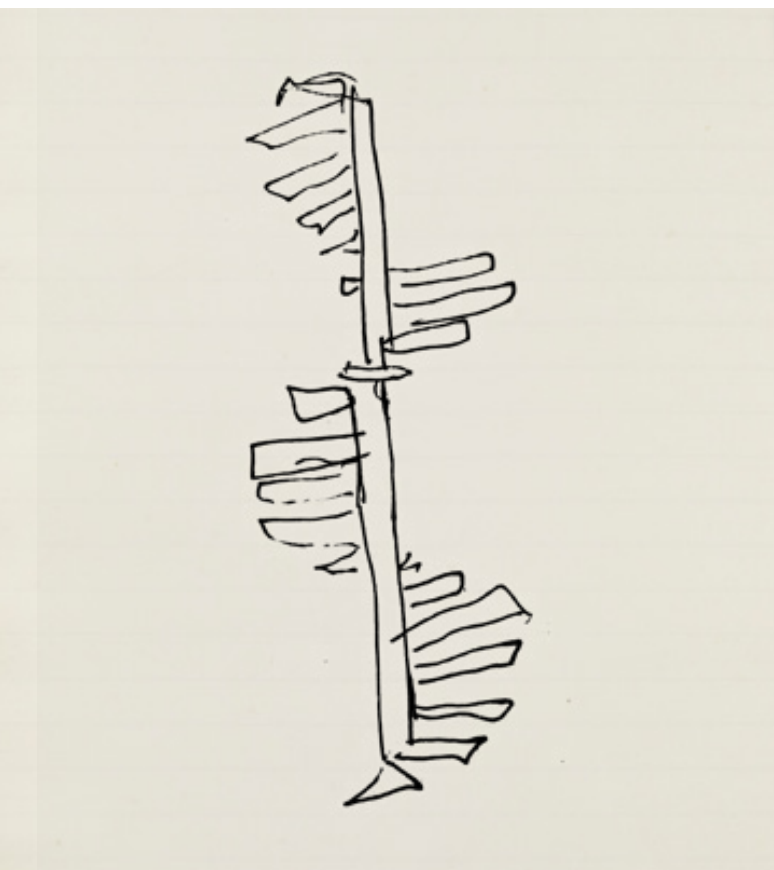
For a few days, Planta1 becomes, thanks to Zilla's magic, a kind of home where its inhabitant goes about his daily life. A place where he can choose and read a book, see his dog resting peacefully, put on his pyjamas and go to sleep until the light of the new day illuminates the objects...

Recently, in 2021, the film director Iwan Schumacher made a documentary about the artist's life and work, taking as a starting point the realisation of several works for an individual retrospective of her work at the Bündner Kunstmuseum Chur.



Zilla Leutenegger
**The spiral stair
to planta1**
2023

Object, video projection
and sound.



Modells 1:10 and sketch
for *The spiral stair to planta1*

— “ In 2004 I had an exhibition in Sala Montcada in Barcelona and for this I started with the rooms. The three first installations were *Corridor*, *Living room* and *Office* — these were the first of seven rooms, I did in the last years. In the new space of Emilio Navarro in Madrid I want to develop another room —a *spiral staircase*—.

The name of the space in Madrid —*Planta1*— refers to his old destination in the first floor. He kept the name although the new space is on the ground floor.

With the idea, that there is a first floor, I made a drawing of a spiral staircase.

With the idea, that there is a first floor, I made a drawing of a spiral staircase.

I am interested in the imagination of a person living on the first floor, using the spiral staircase and we see her shadow going up and down —as a study of a movement— ”.

— Zilla Leutenegger





Zilla Leutenegger
Sleeping Dog (*Schlafender Hund*)
2013

Videoinstalación con una cama de perro,
almohada, proyección, b/n, sin sonido,
13,13 min, bucle



Zilla Leutenegger
The daybed
2023

Object and monotype





Zilla Leutenegger
Letters and Numbers
2022

Installation consisting of wall
drawing, wallpaper, and video
projection

Zilla Leutenegger

1968, Zurich, Switzerland.
Lives and works in Zurich
and Soazza, Switzerland.



From the early start of her career the focus of her artistic repertoire is the repeated discourse of space, the person in relation to space and the relation between space and light: drawings grow out of the plain and merge with sculptures and video projections into three-dimensional installations.

Spatial retreats recurrently play a central role for Zilla Leutenegger – they are a stage and a source of inspiration at the same time. They serve as projection surfaces for memories and sensations. The staged drawings range from streets and staircases to house walls and sophisticated, nuanced interiors.

She has had solo exhibitions at the Bündner Kunstmuseum Chur [2021]; L'Abbatiale, Bellelay [2019]; the Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich [2015]; Centro de Arte Caja Burgos CAB, Burgos [2014]; among others.

Among the most important group exhibitions should be mentioned *Fly me to the Moon*, Kunsthaus Zürich and Museum der Moderne, Salzburg [2019]; *Interval in Space*, Osage Art Foundation, Hong Kong [2017] and Sydney Biennial [2014].

Her works are represented in numerous collections, including the Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, the FRAC Lorraine, Metz and the Kunstmuseum Basel.

Zilla Leutenegger

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15 September → 21 October 2023

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