

# DE PONT MUSEUM



Videostill from the video installation *Rollo*, 2019. Courtesy BQ, Berlin and the artist

## RAPHAELA VOGEL TAKES OVER DE PONT

**Raphaela Vogel**

*KRAAAN*

18 February – 27 August 2023

**In February 2023, Raphaela Vogel will take over De Pont Museum in Tilburg with the exhibition *KRAAAN*. In recent years, Vogel (Nuremberg, 1988) has captured the attention of the international art world with her installations, in which sculpture, painting, experimental videos and music all flow together to yield a theatrical whole. De Pont has also purchased two installations for its collection in the last few years.**

Vogel studied in Nuremberg and Frankfurt, as well as at De Ateliers in Amsterdam and has exhibited her work at a wide range of venues in Germany and beyond. *KRAAAN* is Vogel's first survey in the Netherlands. The exhibition stretches along the entire length of the museum, from the large factory hall all the way to the new wing, and includes large-scale installations such as *Rollo* (2019), *A Woman's Sports Car* (2018) and *Können und Müssen (Ability and Necessity)* (2022), an installation that was recently on display at the Venice Biennale.

Martijn van Nieuwenhuyzen, director of De Pont: 'We are past due for a survey featuring this remarkable artist, who trained in the Netherlands for two years yet still remains largely unknown in this country. With her striking oeuvre, Vogel upends our prior knowledge and ideas. Her works elicit provocative questions which the artist often intertwines with one another in surprising and humorous ways. How, for instance, do cultural knowledge, education and technology work together? Are people and animals truly capable of understanding one another? And what is the nature of the connection between social status and design? Through references to the privilege enjoyed by artists and the position of women in a male-dominated world – and art world – she also turns a critical eye to her own role as an artist.



*Rollo, 2019, Courtesy BQ, Berlin and the artist, © Raphaela Vogel, Kunsthau Bregenz. Photo: Markus Tretter*

The exhibition *KRAAAN* – written with three 'A's so as to encompass both the Dutch (*kraan*) and German (*Kran*) words for 'crane' – offers a dynamic overview of Vogel's work, from early experiments with film to recent installations. It also devotes attention to a few sources of her inspiration, including a socially-engaged 1981 film by the German director Helke Sander. In the film, a woman with two children scales a crane in an act of pure desperation motivated by the crushing costs of rent and the housing shortage.

For Vogel, the slender construction of a crane – which seems to stretch toward the heavens – relates to her interest in the questions around the idea of *hubris*, a Greek word meaning pride or arrogance, as in the misplaced pride of mere mortals who dare compare themselves to the gods. This same concept serves as a common thread running through the

exhibition, which includes monumental works such as *Rollo* (2019), an installation that enables the visitor to stroll between astoundingly large iconic architectural models that once belonged to a now-defunct theme park, including the Statue of Liberty from New York, the Arc de Triomphe of Paris and London's Tower Bridge. They are somewhat weathered, having been partially destroyed and then restored, and as a result seem to question the current state of Western ideals. In the corresponding video clip, we see Vogel climbing up a gigantic crane while filming herself with a 360-degree camera that distorts the image in a surrealistic way. As a result, she leaves the viewer dizzy while singing her own rendition of Nina Simone's cover of *Ain't Got No, I Got Life*.



*A Woman's Sports Car, 2018, Courtesy BQ, Berlin and the artist, Photo: Maximilian Geuter*

When compared with large and provocative installations like these, such as *Können und Müssen (Ability and Necessity)* (2022) and *A Woman's Sports Car* (2018), other works seem understated and inquisitive. In *Würde / Motiv [Dignity, would / Motif, motivation]*, for instance, the artist uses a collection of medallions that hang on the wall like decorative jewellery to explore the meaning of the motif. And the animal hides painted with diagrams and ideas not only form a ritualistic-looking visual presentation, but are also an attempt to come to terms with the varied means by which knowledge is transferred. They are works in which Vogel strives for objectivity and clarity – in the full knowledge that such a thing is impossible.

[more information](#)

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# Raphaela Vogel

**1988, Nuremberg (DE)**  
**Lives and works in Berlin (DE)**

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

2014–2016 De Ateliers, Amsterdam (NL)  
2011–2014 Hochschule für Bildende Künste Städelsschule, Frankfurt/Main (DE)  
2009–2012 Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Nuremberg (DE)

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers (FR) (2022); Kunsthalle Gießen (DE) (2021); Neues Museum Nuremberg (DE) (2020); Kunsthaus Bregenz (AT) (2019); Haus der Kunst, Munich (DE) (2019); Kunsthalle Basel (CH) (2018); Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster (DE) (2016); and BQ in Berlin, Galerie Gregor Staiger in Zürich and Milan and Galerie Meyer Kainer in Vienna.

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

*The Milk of Dreams*, 59th International Art Exhibition, Biennale di Venezia (IT) (2022); *Carnavalesca – Was Malerei sein könnte*, Kunstverein in Hamburg (DE) (2021); *Studio Berlin*, Boros at Berghain, Berlin (DE) (2020); *State of The Arts: Video, Installation, Performance*, Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn (DE) (2020); *Straying from the Line*, Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin (DE) (2019); *Niko Pirosmiani – Wanderer between Worlds*, Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles (FR) (2019); *Jeunes Artistes en Europe – Les Métamorphoses*, Fondation Cartier, Paris (FR) (2019); *Hybrids*, Lustwarande, Platform for Contemporary Sculpture, Tilburg (NL) (2018); *APPARAT*, Kunstverein Braunschweig (DE) (2017); *Wrap around the Time*, Nam June Paik Art Center, Giheung-gu (KR) (2016); *In The Future 15 People Will Be Famous*, Neues Museum Nürnberg (DE) (2012).

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**Sign up** for the exclusive press-preview on February 16 at 11:30am together with Raphaela Vogel.

More information and downloadable images can be found [\*\*here\*\*](#). For questions you can contact:

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