

TITLE: LONGING, 2'

DIRECTOR: Julia Schuster

PRODUCER: Julia Schuster

KEY CAST: Julia Schuster

OVERVIEW: The film 'Longing' shows a performance that uses gestures of massaging and caressing interchangeably on a lump of clay to render emotions of desire and longing materially visible. Clay for its very physicality has the unique ability to capture the personal, the vulnerable. To Julia Schuster its essence lies in the space in between the tangible and intangible, thus narrating the synonymous importance of materiality and corporeality.

DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY: Julia Schuster (b. 1989, Vienna) is a London-based artist. She received her BA (Hons) from the Faculty of Design and Arts in Bolzano, Italy and graduated from the Royal College of Art with a MA Ceramics & Glass in 2016. Her cross-disciplinary work is anchored in material specific making with clay and ceramics but also places itself in an expanded field, using video, performance, writing and spoken word. The use of these diverse media to support her ceramic work make her move laterally across fields of practice. It bridges 'thinking through making' in clay with creative writing and theoretical research around phenomenology, corporeality and material culture. Driven by an investigation of the body, it being our primal source of experience, the body fascinates her with its plurality of meanings and the socio-cultural questions embedded within it. From debates around gender and identity to embodiment, the senses, health and our obsessions with diet and perfect outer appearances. 'I make, write and move' she states. It is this metamorphosis of material, words and gestures that synthesises the kernel of her most recent enquires: drawing attention to the bodily encounter with material and its sensory and psychological effects. Recent achievements include receiving the Sir Eduardo Travel Grant (2015) to undertake a research journey to India visiting traditional potters, speaking about her thesis 'Within' (awarded Distinction) at the symposium 'Beyond Jewellery: Performing the Body' (Birmingham, 2016), participation in the Mixed-Media Residency hosted by Photo Kathmandu (Nepal, 2016) which culminated in the screening of new video work shown at Nepal's First International Photography Festival aka Photo Kathmandu 2016. In fall 2017 a selection of her ceramic work will be exhibited at the British Ceramics Biennial in Stoke-on-Trent, UK. Currently, she is the Artist in Residence at Marlborough College, Wiltshire (academic year 2017 -18).

More information on: www.juliaschuster.net

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