

# Galleri Riis

ÉVA MAG

Det finns en plan för det här  
October 31, 2020 – January 9, 2021

From October 31st, we have the pleasure of showing the exhibition *Det finns en plan för det här* (There is a plan for this) with Swedish-Romanian artist Éva Mag. Mag was born in Transylvania in 1979, but has spent most of her life in Sweden since her family fled from the Ceausescu regime in the 1980s.

She follows a tradition of artists interested in the body, as a bearer of narratives and experiences. Her work examines issues of vulnerability and strength; - how do you stand up straight in the world, and how do you remain standing throughout life?

Earlier this year, Mag was featured in her most extensive exhibition to date at Bonniers Konsthall in Stockholm. The exhibition represented a new step for her, as she took over the entire space with materials that were new to her. The resulting work, *Det finns en plan för det här*, consisted of an enormous amount of used objects and materials spread throughout the exhibition galleries, including everything from mortuary freezers to old furniture, machine parts and bicycles, scrap metal and electrical cables, a dismantled hot tub and a canoe, parts of an old shed and various building materials. During the course of the exhibition the artist and various assistants occasionally re-sorted and re-organized the objects. Specially made worktables and display podiums became bases for installations of bodies made in textile and clay, combined with various other materials.

The materials were borrowed from her father's property outside of Stockholm, where he has, over the years, amassed miscellaneous items. The origin of the artwork may have been Mag's desire to tidy up his possessions, but rather than merely that, her organization of the objects featured in the exhibition also became an act of tender caretaking.

The Galleri Riis iteration of the work offers an intimate setting for a condensed version of the Bonniers Konsthall exhibition; it will also feature new works, and will occupy all of the gallery's exhibition spaces.

Incorporated into the rooms are sequences of sorted materials interchanged with unsorted 'stuff', custom made sorting tables and podiums in steel and brass, and textile collages and sculptures made with unfired clay.

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The exhibition will also feature the video work *Dead Matter Moves*, a recording of the performance with the same title, filmed over the course of one week at the *Performa 19 Biennial* in New York City. The film shows sections of this work, where Mag and ten dancers perform based on her instructions. During the performance, each dancer works with a human figure made of clay as an investigation of collective labor and the challenges we have to face in life - alone and together.

Éva Mag received her art education at the Royal Institute of Art in Stockholm, where she currently lives and works. Her multidisciplinary practice spans sculpture, photography, collage, performance and film. The body is at the center of her work - the living body as well as the body as sculpture, especially in her clay-based works constructed around elements of interaction and movement. By physically wrestling with the material, she creates full-scale human figures often without armature reinforcement or firing, which makes them fragile and mutable. She is also interested in the social aspects of art, in the form of workshops and choreographed or improvised actions.