

PRESS RELEASE

Reza Aramesh, “Rupture; Once and a Thousand Times” at the 14th Bienal de La Habana

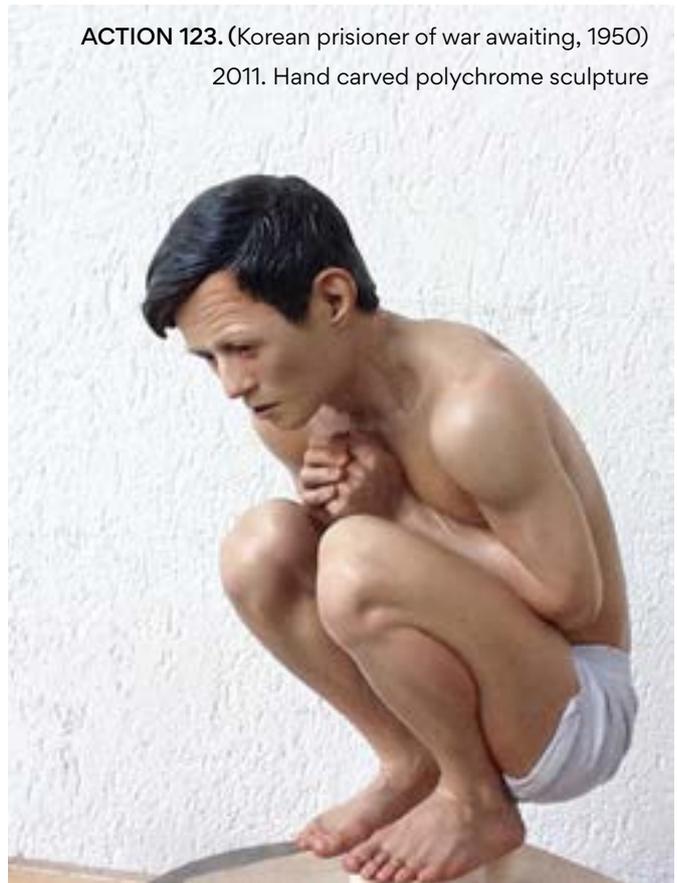
Curated by: Marianne Wagner and Nelson Ramirez de Arellano

· British-Iranian artist Reza Aramesh will present, as part of the program of the 14th Havana Biennial, the solo show entitled “Ruptura; Una y Mil Veces” (Rupture; Once and a Thousand Times). The opening will take place on January 21 at 4:00 p.m. at the **National Museum of Decorative Arts**, the exhibition will end on April 30, 2022.

· Working across a wide range of materials and processes, Aramesh examines simultaneously the history of Western art and a contemporary commentary on the politics and history of the Middle East, conjuring a unique visual language in addressing the contemporary conditions of violence and geo-politics, to that of the classic standards of beauty. He successfully delivers the unwanted transgressions of society by employing beauty as the delivery agent. Aramesh often expresses, “my role as an artist is to contribute to the ongoing conversation towards art history and to challenge the boundaries of European Art history in relation to the absence of the other.

· The pieces in the exhibition have been carefully selected to create a dialogue with the museum’s history, its collection, and the Biennial’s theme (Future and Contemporaneity), whose logo is “based on the idea of a linear path connecting 14 points located around the perimeter of a circle, in such a way that it is possible to generate thousands of designs”.

ACTION 123. (Korean prisoner of war awaiting, 1950)
2011. Hand carved polychrome sculpture



Some of the works that will be on display:

- From the Palace of Versailles series, made in collaboration with refugees whom were taking shelter, at the Gare de L'est Park in Paris. In 2011 the artist produced a photographic body of work by re-constructing reportage images of war and violence in the Hall of Mirrors and the Hall of Battles at the Versailles Palace. Creating a symbolic scenario, a window to look at mechanism of war and the dynamic of a power relationship.
- Series of plaster heads which will be created, live casts in collaboration with students in Havana titled "Study of the head as cultural artefacts".
- Two polychrome sculptures created to engage in a critical dialogue with 18th century Spanish polychromes that often reflected the idea of martyrdom and sainthood.
- Twelve large scale drawings on linen titled "Rupture; Once and a Thousand Times" which is also the title of the exhibition

14th BIENAL DE LA HABANA

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Opening hours: from Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 to 16:00.



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