

MEDIA RELEASE

Sarada Rauch: If All Things Were Equal, You'd Only Be the Sequel

Opens September 19th at New Media Artspace, Baruch College, CUNY

Image: Sarada Rauch, *Topple*, video, 2020. Image courtesy of the artist.

NEW YORK, NY - September 19, 2022 – The New Media Artspace is proud to present *Sarada Rauch: If All Things Were Equal, You'd Only Be the Sequel,* a solo exhibition of eight single-channel moving image works by the New Yorkbased artist. The exhibition is curated by Katherine Behar, Associate Professor of New Media Arts, and is generously sponsored by the Sandra Kahn Wasserman Jewish Studies Center.

Sarada Rauch: If All Things Were Equal, You'd Only Be the Sequel will be on view from September 19, 2022 through December 2, 2022 at the New Media Artspace website, <u>bit.ly/nma_saradarauch</u>, and at the New Media Artspace gallery in Baruch's Library and Information Building, 151 E. 25th Street.

The Sandra Kahn Wasserman Jewish Studies Center and the New Media Artspace will host Sarada Rauch for a public artist lecture on Tuesday, November 15, from 6:30–8:30 p.m. at the Baruch Performing Arts Center's Engelman Recital Hall. Please visit the gallery website to reserve a ticket: <u>www.newmediartspace.info</u>. The New Media Artspace will host casual discussions with the artist for Baruch students from 3:30–4:30 p.m. on October 21, October 26, and October 31 in the New Media Artspace and room 415 in the Library and Information Building. Members of the public who wish to attend may RSVP to <u>newmediartspace@gmail.com</u>.

The works in *If All Things Were Equal, You'd Only Be the Sequel* are frequently set at intimate scales of personal engagement—a tabletop, a tablet, a domestic tableau, a neighborhood. At a time when the world's problems often seem inconceivably large, Rauch scales everything down into a framework where intervention becomes possible. With deceptively modest means, they craftily manipulate things in the troubled present to arrive at impoverished but hopeful images of how the world might be otherwise. Even while Rauch dares to imagine "If All Things Were Equal," their works unflinchingly acknowledge a present reality in which that is far from being the case.

Rauch's interdisciplinary practice turns political identity into a matter of craft, of self-fashioning, and of pragmatic agentic intervention. In the first work in the exhibition, *Topple*, the political relevance of Rauch's craft-based anti-technique is at the fore. Rauch recreates monuments of patriarchal and racist oppressors at miniature scale and shoots them against diorama-like backgrounds of the public spaces where they were installed. Then, with their full-scale hand and a bit of string, they topple them one by one, as if to say, "It can be as easy as that."

Sarada Rauch: If All Things Were Equal, You'd Only Be the Sequel is a hybrid exhibition. It includes an in-person exhibition spanning all four floors of the New Media Artspace, as well as a natively web-based digital exhibition.

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Artist Bio: Sarada Rauch is an artist, poet and musician born in Los Angeles and based in Brooklyn. Their work reenacts popular media and personal experience to explore the construction of histories and Unbelonging. Sarada exhibits, performs and screens internationally in spaces such as The Drawing Center, New York; Hessel Museum of Art, Hudson; Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami; Central St. Martins, London; La Conservera Center of Contemporary Art, Cueti; RISD Museum, Providence and Aesthetica Short Film Festival. Artist residencies they have participated in include Open Sessions at the Drawing Center, New York; The LMCC Swing Space, New York; Lakkos Residency, Heraklion, Crete; _Hannacc, Barcelona; Greatmore Studios/Triangle Network, Cape Town; amongst others, and they received the BBK Saxony Fellowship in Leipzig. They are an Associate Professor of New Media and Technology at LaGuardia Community College.

Gallery Location: New Media Artspace at Baruch College, Library and Information Building, 151 E. 25th Street, New York, NY 10010

Gallery Hours: The New Media Artspace is open to the CUNY community during regular library hours. Members of the public may visit the virtual exhibition on the gallery website, <u>www.newmediartspace.info</u>, or contact <u>newmediaartspace@</u> <u>gmail.com</u> to arrange an in-person visit by appointment. For updated information, please check the gallery website or dial a docent at 646-312-1664.

The New Media Artspace is a teaching exhibition space in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts at Baruch College, CUNY. Housed in the Newman Library, the New Media Artspace showcases curated experimental media and interdisciplinary artworks by international artists, students, alumni, and faculty.

About Baruch College: Baruch College is a senior college in the <u>City University of New York (CUNY</u>) with a total enrollment of more than 17,000 students, who represent 160 countries and speak more than 100 languages. Ranked among the top 15% of U.S. colleges and the No. 4 public regional university, Baruch College is regularly recognized as among the most ethnically diverse colleges in the country. As a public institution with a tradition of academic excellence, Baruch College offers accessibility and opportunity for students from every corner of New York City and from around the world. For more about Baruch College, go to <u>http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/</u>.

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