

MERCEDES AZPILICUETA

(La Plata, Argentina, 1981)



Mercedes Azpilicueta is an artist best known for her language-based works who calls herself a dishonest researcher.

Through extensive research work, from art history to popular music, from literature to street culture, her work brings together diverse figures from the past and present, and reflects on their dissident trajectories including their voices, forms, texts, traces and memories in a multi-layered work. Far from falling into cold reverence or archival fascination, her work successfully addresses the body with all its defects and potential embracing its fragility, as well as its capacity for resistance and care.

Azpilicueta's practice has recently evolved towards exploring the theatrical possibilities of sculpture and installation. Disguised as sculptures, her pieces should not be taken for granted, as they have the potential to be activated in various ways such as scores, sets, props, mnemonic devices or records.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2025 Las mesas danzantes, C3A Centro de Creacion Contemporanea de Andalucía, Córdoba, Spain
- 2024 Mercedes maga estrella de la mañana, Prats Nogueras Blanchard Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
- 2023 an old/ piece of gum that/ streeeeetches, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Tierra desnuda, cielo desnudo, Kunstverein Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany
- 2022 Susurros Barrocos, Sammlung Philara, Dusseldorf, Germany
C4, Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Vaduz, Liechtenstein
- 2021 Prix de Rome, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Katalina, Antonio, Alonso, NoguerasBlanchard, Madrid, Spain
Bondage of Passions, Gasworks, London, UK
Bestiario de Lengüitas, CAC Brétigny, Brétigny-sur-Orge, France
- 2020 The Captive: Here's a Heart for Every Fate, Fons Welters, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Bestiario de Lengüitas, Museion, Bolzano, Italy
- 2019 Bestiario de Lengüitas, CentroCentro, Madrid, Spain
The Old Dream of Symmetry, Nogueras Blanchard, Madrid, Spain
- 2018 Cuerpos Pájaros, Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2017 On affection, Nogueras Blanchard, Barcelona, Spain
- 2016 Geometric Dancer Doesn't Believe in Love, Finds Aspiration and Ecstasy in Spirals, SlyZmud Projects, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2015 All outside inside, Móvil, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2009 Middle Bard, Centro Cultural Jorge Luis Borges, Buenos Aires, Argentina

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2025 Unravel: The Power and Politics of Textiles in Art, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2024 Playing with closed eyes, 100 years of surrealism, Galería RGR, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2023 Textiel biënnale 2023: Images of power, Museum Rijswijk, Rijswijk, Netherlands
 This too is a map, Seoul Bienal Mediacity, Seoul, South Korea
 Picasso: Sin Título, La Casa Encendida, Madrid, Spain
 Embustes y Maravillas: Representaciones inverosímiles de lo otro, Casa de Iberoamérica, Cadiz, Spain
 Seeds of Memory, Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, Netherlands
 Clubs. Art a la pista, Sala Apolo, Barcelona, Spain
- 2022 Revelations on a shapeless sphere, Bombon & Joan Prats & Noguerras Blanchard, Fonteta, Spain
 THE COLLECTION IS..., Van Abbe Museum, Eindhoven, Netherlands
 Unweaving the binary code, Hannah Ryggen Triennale, Torgarden, Norway
 La colección: diálogos, Museo Collegium, Arevalo, Spain
 Unweaving the binary code, Kunsthall Trondheim, Trondheim, Norway
 Secrets of making #2, TextielMuseum, Tilburg, Netherlands
 Panorama Madrid 02, CentroCentro, Madrid, Spain
 A Lasting Truth Is Change, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Netherlands
 Versos y versions: de la palabra a la imagen, Centro Cultural Galileo, Madrid, Spain
- 2021 Prix de Rome 2021, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
 La puntada subversiva: Tèxtil contemporani del Museo Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo, Centre Grau-Garriga d'Art Tèxtil Contemporani, Barcelona, Spain
 IV Bienal de Performance, Fundación Babilonia para las Artes, la Ciencia y la Cultura, Buenos Aires, Argentina
 Más Allá, El Mar Canta - Diasporic Intimacies and Labor, Times Art Center, Berlin, Germany
 Personae. Máscaras contra la barbarie, Es Baluard Museu d'Art Contemporani, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
 When in Doubt, Go to a Museum, City Museum Of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
 7 Works to Bend Time, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, USA

- 2020 Words at an Exhibition—an exhibition in ten chapters and five poems, Busan Biennale, Busan, South Korea
- Storia notturna, Centrale Fies, Dro, Italy
- Common Threads, TextielMuseum, Tilburg, Netherlands
- Performance/Documentation/Presentation, LundsKonsthall, Lund, Sweeden
- The total scab-free solidarity and performative silence that struck floor-shows and soundstages from Desert to NJ coast for over half a year, A Tale of a Tub, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2019 11th Biennial d'Art Leandre Cristòfol, Centre d'Art la Panera, Lleida, Spain
- Post-Opera, TENT, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- A Day with Marie Vassilieff, Maison des Arts Bernard-Anthonioz, Villa Vassilieff, Paris, France
- BienalSur, Bienal Internacional de Arte Contemporáneo de América del Sur, Museo Genaro Pérez, Cordoba, Argentina
- Cold Prey, Lubov Gallery, New York, USA
- 2018 Somatechnics, Museion, Bozen, Italy
- Lunds konsthall Ute - Videokonst frå Argentina, Lunds konsthall, Lund, Sweeden
- A Fleshly School of Poetry, D21 Kunstraum, Leipzig, Germany
- Los efectos de la presión y la súbita expulsión, Galería Hilario Galguera, Mexico City, Mexico
- Akademia: Performing Life, Villa Vassilieff, Paris, France
- 2017 I would prefer not to, La Casa Encendida, Madrid, Spain
- Rolling Snowball/8, Chinese European Art Center, Xiamen, China
- Los Derivados [The Derivatives], SlyZmud Gallery, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2016 The Economy is Spinning, Onomatopee, Eindhoven, Netherlands
- Rijksakademie OPEN, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2015 Motion, Labour, Machinery, TENT, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- Rijksakademie OPEN, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, Netherlands

PERFORMANCES (SELECTION)

- 2023 Even in the dark I know I am sleeping with myself, Stichting Perdu, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2022 Onze Roeping, On Joyful Militancy, ROZENSTRAAT, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2021 Yegua-yeta-yuta, Bienal B.P 21, Buenos Aires, Argentina
The City Talks Back, Theatrum Mundi, London and Onassis Foundation, Athens, Greece
Más allá, el mar canta, Times Art Center, Berlin, Germany
- 2020 The Sphinx of Milan, ExtraExtra, Theatre Rotterdam, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Molecular Love – Act: 2, Lunds Konsthall, Lund, Sweeden
- 2019 Oh Eduarda!, Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires, Argentina
Yegua-yeta-yuta, Latitudes, como parte de Today is Our Tomorrow, PUBLICS, Helsinki, Finland
Scores for Rotterdam con The Codarts Composers Ensemble, Tarwewijk choir and the Groene Connectie, TENT, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2018 Yegua-yeta-yuta, Museo Jumex, Mexico City, Mexico
La Facultad, como parte de Cine Moderno, Careof, Milan, Italy
Yegua-yeta-yuta as part of Idiorritmias, Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art, Barcelona, Spain
La facultad, REDCAT Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2017 Yegua-yeta-yuta, Picnic Sessions, Centro de Arte 2 de Mayo, Mostoles, Spain
Yuko & Justine, LIVE WORKS, Vol. 5, Centrale Fies, Trento, Italy
Molecular Love, Festival for Live Art, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2015 The Baroness of Cosmic Arithmetics, NZZN Festival, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2014 POW! – It Makes us Think of a Dance and a Fête as Much as of War (On Violence), EVA International Biennial, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland
Composing Through Words, Het Veem Theatre, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Florian as part of the Doors of Perception, A Tale of a Tub, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2013 FLESH, Galata Fotoğrafhanesi, Dutch Art Institute, Arnhem, Netherlands
If I Can't Dance I Don't Want To Be Part Of Your Revolution, Istanbul, Turkey

AWARDS

- 2021 Shortlist Prix de Rome – Beeldende Kunst, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
VIII Premio Internacional de Arte Marta García-Fajardo, Fundación María José Jove, Coruña, Spain
- 2020 Stichting Stokroos, Utrecht, Netherlands
- 2019 Premio ARCO Jóvenes Artistas – Adquisición CA2M, Madrid, Spain
- 2018 Frieze Artist Award, London, UK
- 2017 Andrea von Braun Stiftung, Munich, Germany
Het Pauwhof Fonds, Haren, Netherlands
Stichting Niemeijer Fonds, Haastrecht, Netherlands
Pernod Ricard Fellowship, Villa Vassilieff, Paris, France
- 2016 Amsterdams Fonds voor de Kunst, Amsterdam, Netherlands
de Swaan Fellowship, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Mención especial Premio Faena a las artes, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2015 GAI, Associazione per il Circuito dei Giovani Artisti Italiani, Torino, Italy
- 2011 Son Sard Trust Foundation, M. Marta Sánchez Elía de Nuñez, Buenos Aires, Argentina



COLLECTIONS

Adrastus Collection, Arevalo, Spain

Banco de España, Madrid, Spain

Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo, Madrid, Spain

Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, Netherlands

Fundación María José Jove, Coruña, Spain

Institute of Contemporary Art Miami, Miami, USA

Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Vaduz, Liechtenstein

Museion, Bolzano, Italy

Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain

Philara Collection, Düsseldorf, Germany

Textiel Museum, Tilburg, Netherlands

Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Netherlands

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