



Sara Arvidsson thinks that the seriousness of the exhibition is unusual and liberating. Photo: Elin Liljeblad

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Review: "The more tongues you silence, the more they talk" by Lala Raščić on Röda sten

Culture • Lala Raščić's first exhibition in Sweden is an intricate and ruthless showdown with enduring myths and patriarchal power structures. Sara Arvidsson thinks that its seriousness is unusual and liberating.

Art

Lala Rasčić

The more tongues you silence, the more they talk

Röda Sten art gallery

The exhibition runs until April 5

Sara Arvidsson

🕒 15:00 - 7 Feb, 2021

I have read many depressing articles about female writers who eventually throw in the towel; they do not have the strength to continue due to the fact that their words are nailed more accurately than those of their male colleagues. Threats and insults become commonplace.

Even more unpleasant are the reports of women having their lives ruined by not only "a rape" but also by its persistent aftermath. The initial crime then does not seem to be bad enough in itself, no, they should be persecuted and mocked even after the abuse. The perpetrator's sympathizers cannot confuse the testimonies with their own version of their friend, colleague or idol.

The Bosnian artist Lala Raščić's serious exhibition "The more tongues you silence, the more they talk" at Röda Sten art gallery emphasizes how Western culture has for too long contributed to a misogynistic brainwashing. Art history is filled with "tickling" depictions of raped women, similar to popular culture.

Sometimes they have even been double-punished. A well-known example of this chain of events is found in the ancient myth of Medusa, who was initially an ordinary girl but who, after being raped by the sea god Poseidon, turns into a monster of the jealous goddess Athena.

Raščić's video work "Gorgo" depicts an active and human Medusa in copper armor. The updated interpretation will act as a counterweight to the reproduced portraits of Medusa as decapitated, which have adorned shields, for example.

According to legend, her severed head was used as a weapon and a trophy by her killer Perseus, as it had a petrifying effect on enemies. She was both feared and exploited, monsters and victims, trapped in someone else's story. A hiking picture. In this work, the terrible beast is discovered to be a woman who is both strong and fragile, someone you may not scout so easily.

In the moving sound installation "Poppaea's Pans", Raščić again draws inspiration from antiquity, this time via an opera by Monteverdi. The hypnotic work, which contains several spinning baking plates, has been done in collaboration with the music orchestra Göteborg Baroque and deals briefly with how women, then as now, have many times been shackled in domestic chores while their voices have never really been suffocated.

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The same thing with the slap-hard video installation "EE-O" where the myth of the creative weaver Arachne, whose talent was considered so threatening that Athena turned her into a spider, turns into a cyborg fantasy.

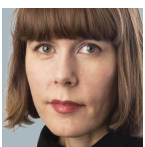
This work appears as a critical and painful meditation on how women are indoctrinated in how they should act in order not to be portrayed in a bad day, how violations are confirmed and repeated in an accepted cultural canon, but Raščić also raises awareness of how these mythologies and power structures can be viewed, combined and spun together in new, diametrical strategies.

We should study the misdeeds of history, religions and fairy tales and not excuse them, Raščić's art seems to want to say. To look away is synonymous with approval. The saying "Boys will be boys" does not belong in the classroom or in the gallery, it should be thrown in the nearest rubbish heap.

I think that Lala Raščić's at once intricate and ruthless settlement with the rippling consideration that is sometimes shown to criminals but not their victims is unusual and liberating. In addition, she reminds us that we should not only give thoughts to the people who are seen and heard the most. The absence of voices says at least as much as loud shouts. The silence is telling.

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Niklas Alin - 10 månader sedan

Intressant. På engelska wiki om Medusa står att hon var en, av tre, gorgon och "Near them their sisters three, the Gorgons, winged With snakes for hair—hatred of mortal man".

På svenska wiki är det första som står att hon blev våldtagen. Det får man leta efter på engelska wiki-sidan. ([visa mindre](#))

Svara

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