

And remember that holes can move

The work *And Remember that Holes Can Move* consists of a video and a series of bronze low reliefs installed on the walls.

The video is a new increased version of the video work filmed during a closed-door summit held from September 4th to 7th, 2023, at Ar/Ge Kunst in Bozen-Bolzano. The summit brought together legal scholars and art historians from various countries (and legal traditions) to discuss proposals for classifying specific sculptures as objects and walkable platforms recognised by international law as unappropriable, common resources not subject to any state's sovereignty. The study days were fully recorded and compiled to present the scholars' perspectives and some of the proposals that were put forward. At *Liste*, the work is presented in a new enhanced version together with a new series of bronze low reliefs that reproduce words and concepts written down on the table by the speakers.

Speakers: Stacy Douglas (artist; legal theorist; professor of law at Carleton University in Ottawa), Isabel Feichtner (professor of public law and international economic law at the University of Würzburg), Lawrence Liang (Dean of the School of Law, Government and Citizenship at Ambedkar University Delhi), Francesco Palermo (Head of the Institute for Comparative Federalism Research, Eurac Research, Bozen-Bolzano), Nora Sternfeld (Art educator and curator; professor at the HFBK Hamburg; co-director of the master's course in exhibition theory and practice at the University of Applied Arts Vienna), Alexandra Tomaselli (senior researcher at the Institute for Minority Law, Eurac Research, Bozen-Bolzano).

When developing hypotheses, it was necessary to consider law not as a rigid force to be obeyed but as a means to empower the 'fictiveness of law'. It was important for sculptures to embody an idea of the public that does not stem from the Westphalian state's opposition to private property but rather from the principles that currently rule citizenship. It was also essential to recognise that without a sovereign act of parliament, it is not possible to change the powers that a sovereign state has over the objects within its territory.

One of the proposed ideas is to use the General Public License to create a free licence for unlimited reproduction of sculptures. This would be accompanied by a DIY instruction manual, allowing anyone and everywhere to construct the sculpture without being able to claim authorship and declaring it as an unappropriable asset. Another idea is to designate sculptures as special status areas, creating Special Commoning Zones to protect the place (the sculpture) as a common good. Some other suggestions include criminalising sculptures to make them undesirable objects for any state, using legislation to protect the rights of natives interested in land use, drawing inspiration from sacredness attributed to certain sculptures, embracing pre-state conditions, forms of cosmopolitan belonging, commoning practices, and the concept of gift and manna as redistributed affective surplus.

(MM)