

# Body in Fragments

A Body in Fragments is an installation that is made up of many individual pieces of white ceramic that compose several human figures of grand scale. All of the ceramic pieces are portraying different glazed motives. The motives look like pictures from a photo album, or some sort of memory, and they range from a depiction of an angel to a sole fisher man on his boat, or a table with empty martini glasses where only the cherry remains. They are showing an inner landscape, the broken memories. It is something innate that each of us have. I want to bring forth the ambivalence between the different scenes that each fragment represents and how they fit with their respective part of the body, for example a forest could be the be rib.

I started to think about the body in fragments after being introduced to a part of psycho analysis called Body Psychotherapy, developed by a student of Freud, called Wilhelm Reich. In this type of therapy, the method relies on the therapist to physically activate parts of your body, at the same time as talking. The therapist will massage for example an arm and feel the muscles while talking to the patient about certain memories that may be residing in that part of the body. It made me realize that the body is a home for our memories, a physical space where we can trace them.

Brian Dillon writes about this in his book In the Dark Room. He is following many of the same thoughts as Gaston Bachelard, where they use the house as a way to visualize the dark corners of the mind.

In this work I am trying to evoke sense of playfulness in this method otherwise associated with trauma. Trauma can be hidden or often laid side by side with other joyful memories. In this way the imagery falls somewhere in between and can be read as nostalgic or melancholic.



view of Meisterschüler\*innen 2023,  
Städtische Gallerie Fruchthalle, Rastatt

**Body in Fragments** (2023)  
ceramic glazed  
350 x 140 cm



Detail from *Body in fragments*, 2023



Detail from *Body in fragments*, 2023



Detail from *Body in fragments*, 2023



Detail from *Body in fragments*, 2023



Detail from *Body in fragments*, 2023