SÁRA MOLČAN

VISUAL ARTIST
VANCOUVER, CANADA

BIOGRAPHY

Canadian artist Sára Molčan (b. 1986) captures the universal desire to be liked through her large-scale paintings. Using herself as a vessel, Molčan's work speaks to the careful curation of our own displays of emotions, our imperfect existence, and the ambivalence towards romantic partners in an effort to seem like you don't care.

Known for her exploration of how social media penetrates daily existence, she questions and confronts the notions of our curated exposure of self-disclosure, sense of insecurity and the need to consistently reinvent ones' brand.

"As an artist, I have become endlessly fascinated with this mask I wear – the inescapable reality of a millennial. The disingenuous mask of vulnerability and feeling I display online to seem personable; the casual indifference I display to the physical world. My curation of self is far more prevalent offline than online, so I question if I can merge these into a single identity," says Molčan. "My calculated and critical performance of self is dictated through my experiences, including physical and emotional trauma; creating an intimate void that I seek to feel with likes and comments in the digital realm."

Molčan's work translates the ephemeral selfie into analog format, using technology as a veil of abstraction. Drawing inspiration from user interfaces, sexting, and identity play, her larger-than-life selfies demand to be removed from context and placed back in the digital world.

Currently hosting self-funded solo exhibitions, you can catch Molčan's work in Vancouver, Canada. See exhibitions for upcoming events.

EDUCATION

2013-2015
Bachelor of Fine Arts
Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver

2007-2011
Bachelor of Arts, major in English Literature
Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2018
Electric Lust, STR/KE Movement, curated by 2Cream2Sugar, Vancouver
Casually Indifferent (solo), Arts Factory, Vancouver
Arts + Craft presented by VCBW, Arts Factory Society, Vancouver

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2017
Existence, Lululemon Lab, curated by 2Cream2Sugar, Vancouver
THE FLATS: Block Party, Arts Factory, curated by A. Kassen, Vancouver
Spring Salon, Arts Factory, curated by C. Cardinal and A. Rolland, Vancouver

2015
AYL + QFWFQ Forever, tag Contemporary, Vancouver
It could have been…, Concourse Gallery, Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver THE SHOW, Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver

2013
Art + Denim, exhibition and auction, dutil. Denim, Vancouver
Shrink, MAKE Art Studio Gallery, Nanaimo

2012
Collection of Obscure Sorrows (solo), Electric Umbrella Gallery, Nanaimo

2011
Explorations, Nanaimo Art Gallery, Nanaimo
Emergence, Ladysmith Waterfront Gallery, curated by Leona Petrak, Ladysmith, BC
Exhale, Elephant Room Creative, Nanaimo

2010
Progressions, Nanaimo Art Gallery, curated by Gregory Ball, Nanaimo
Structural Connections, Nanaimo Art Gallery, curated by Jason Gress, Nanaimo

PUBLISHED ARTIST PROJECTS

2017
Lin, Michelle. “A House Made of Water.” Cover art by Sára Molčan. Sibling Rivalry Press. 2017. Cover. Little Rock, AR.

2015
“She said, he said”. WOO Publication Spring Issue. 11. Print. Canada.
“Meat Eater”. WOO Publication Winter Issue. 39. Print. Canada.

PRESS

2016
“This video of paint swirling may calm your jitters.” The Today Show with Kathie Lee and Hoda. NBC. Aired 10 June 2016. Web. USA.
Batchelor, Renee. “5 inspiring female artists to follow on Instagram.” Buro 24/7. 7 November 2016. Web. Singapore.
Birgani, Parisa. “How Sara Molčan is creating a new spectrum of colours.” The Fashion Hub. 23 July 2016. Web. USA.
Britten, Liam. “I Chew Chew Chew You art exhibit.” CBC News. Image Feature. 12 February 2016. Web. Canada.
Brock, Louisa. “Instagram Trend: Mixing Paint Videos.” TEASER Magazine. 4 August 2016. Web. Germany.
Brownstone, Andy. “Better than watching paint dry?” BBC Trending. British Broadcasting Corporation. 26 September 2016. Web. United Kingdom.

Bryant, Miranda. "'They're so weirdly calming!' Canadian artist develops cult following on social media as thousands fixated with captivating videos of her mixing and scraping oil paint on palette." The Daily Mail. 11 June 2016. Web. United Kingdom.

Clift, Cortney. "These Mesmerizing Paint-Mixing Instagrams Are Millennials' New Therapy." Brit + Co. 08 Oct. 2016. Web. USA.

Elizalde, Molly. "Paint Has Never Been This Mesmerizing." Sweet. Hearst. Originally aired on Snapchat Discover Video 27 June 2016. Translated to print 28 June 2016. Web. USA.

Ikink, Luuk. "De Headlines van donderdag 9 juni 2016." RTL Late Night. Aired 9 June 2016. Uploaded to YouTube 9 June 2016. Web. Netherlands.

Kircher, Madison. "Calm Your Inner Demons by Watching These Videos of Paint Being Mixed." New York Magazine. 23 June 2016. Web. USA.

Kruvant, Mackenzie. "People Are Mixing Paint On Instagram And It Is Insanely Calming." BuzzFeed. 7 June 2016. Web. US A.

Lorenzo, Sandra. "Ces artistes mélangent des couleurs sur Instagram et c'est hypnotisant." HuffPost C'est La Vie. 02 July 2016. Web. France.

Ludwig, Lisa. "Sára J. Molčan sorgt mit Farbmisch-Videos für visuelle Orgasmen." Vice's Broadly. Broadly.Vice.com, 26 July 2016. Web. Germany.

Olson, Danielle. "Meet Gique Sára J. Molčan: Vancouver, British Columbia-Based Artist." Gique. 2016. Web. USA.

Yam, Kimberly. "Artist's Paint-Mixing Videos Are As Addicting As They Are Gorgeous." The Huffington Post. TheHuffingtonPost.com, 10 June 2016. Web. USA.

2015

Kim, Areum. "*It Could Have Been...* A Walk with Areum Kim." Print. Originally printed February 5th for It Could Have Been... opening night. Republished 12 February 2015 on WOO Publication Blog. Canada.

MEDIA

2019

Molčan, Sára. "SNAGCAST Ep. 28 - Girl Gang." Interview by Nick Pound and Katie So. Audio blog post. Influenced. 18 Feb. 2019. Web.

2017

Molčan, Sára. "Episode 7: Mental Health and Selling Emotion." Interview by Jacquie Shaw. Audio blog post. Influenced. 8 Feb. 2017. Web.

AWARDS

2011

Vancouver Island University, Advanced Studio Award
Vancouver Island University, Photography Award
Vancouver Island University, Artist Recognition Award