

Félix T. Kazi-Tani and Sido Lansari
RAW

Curated by Bernardo Follini

Opening: May 6 2023, 5 – 8 pm

May 7 – July 26 2023

Palazzo Re Rebaudengo, Piazza Roma, 1 – 12050, Guarene CN

On the occasion of the eleventh year of collaboration with ENSBA Lyon - École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo hosts the duo exhibition "RAW", the first presentation in Italy of Félix T. Kazi-Tani and Sido Lansari, artists participating in the 2023 edition of the Post-diplôme. The Post-diplôme is a post-graduate research program for the arts organized by the French school, coordinated by the curator Oulimata Gueye, and open every year to five artists.

"RAW" exhibits new productions by the artists, conceived and realized specifically for the spaces of Palazzo Re Rebaudengo in Guarene. At the center of the dialogue lies an exploration of the relationship between body, food and sexuality. Over the past decades, food culture and animal consumption have been investigated extensively from philosophical and activist perspectives, allowing the connections between human and animal oppressive systems to be delineated. Since the publication in 1990 of Carol J. Adams' classic *The Sexual Politics of Meat: A Feminist-Vegetarian Critical Theory*, the international debate has focused on the power relations that animate the field of cooking and the practice of meat consumption as a rite of production of virility. Placing itself within this critical tradition, "RAW" attempts to answer the question: "When does a body become meat?"

"RAW" explores the relationship between food and erotic consumption, confronting the processes of sexualization of animal food and animalization of bodies in the sphere of sexuality, highlighting their intersections based on the categories of gender, class and race. The artists are united by a practice of exploring archives in an attempt to recompose historical dynamics of oppression and collective strategies of autonomy.

Félix T. Kazi-Tani investigates culinary culture through their transfeminist perspective as a codified performative system, in which social control guaranteed by the etiquette coincides with patriarchal and heteronormative domination. Feeding their research through a baker practice and an extensive bibliography of cooking books and pamphlets from the last two centuries, the artist is interested in staging how food and culinary practices are traversed as much by ethics of care as by hegemonic violence.

Sido Lansari employs the practice of embroidery to stitch together events related to the sexuality of queer Arab communities in France. Dwelling on the language contained within magazines from the 1980s devoted to sexual advertisements, Lansari explores the fetishization of Arab bodies and processes of racialization in the field of sexuality.

The title of the exhibition "RAW" ("raw") refers on the one hand to raw meat as a symbolic referent of male dominance, and on the other hand it is inspired by the film of the same name by French director Julia Ducournau (*Raw - A Raw Truth*), a disturbing horror film focusing on the relationship between sexuality and cannibalism.

Félix T. Kazi-Tani (1977, lives and works in Lyon & Noisy-Le-Sec).

Recently graduated from a bakery vocational diploma (CAP) after a career as a teacher, a designer and a researcher (Cité du Design, ESADSE, CoDesign Lab Télécom ParisTech), Félix Kazi-Tani attempts to uncover the role of food and cooking in the constitution of their own political subjectivity, inspired by Maggie Nelson's autotheoretical investigations and Monique Wittig's cannibal eroticism. In their most recent work, while manipulating, investigating, reviving archives and documents, and turning their very processes into shapes, Félix Kazi-Tani confront the political and intimate ambiguities of gestures and practices that are affected as much by the ethics of care as by systemic violence. They is also a founding member of the graphic design research collective Bye Bye Binary which explores inclusive, queer and post-binary typographic forms. They was associate curator of the 2017 International Design Biennial and the French Pavilion of the 2019 Milan Triennial. Their work has been presented at the Centre Georges Pompidou, La Gaîté Lyrique, Biennale Internationale Design Saint Etienne, California College of The Arts, Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers, etc.

Sido Lansari (1988 Casablanca, lives and work in Lyon)

Sido Lansari is a multidisciplinary artist. He was born and raised in Casablanca, Morocco. He worked at the Dance Biennale and the Contemporary Art Biennale of Lyon during his studies in communication and cultural marketing. In 2014, he moved to Tangier and joined the adventure of the Cinémathèque de Tanger. He has been its director until September 2022. He is currently participating to the Post-graduate Art program at l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Lyon, where he is developing a project about L'Ahzem, the first North African queer movement in France. His artistic practice revolves around questions related to identity, gender and sexualities by exploring the blind spots of memory, from the point of view of linguistic, artisanal or archival heritage. Through mediums such as embroidery, photography and video, he questions a collective narrative to build an individual reflection and memory.

In 2018, he was a resident artist at La Friche la Belle de Mai in Marseille, with the support of Fræme and Institut français du Maroc. There, he developed The Last Paradise, his first short film, Grand Prix 2019 of the Chéries-Chéris Film Festival in Paris.

In 2020, he created divine, a participatory and multidisciplinary fanzine, available online, which promotes the contribution of artists from multiple universes by offering them a space for experimentation with domestic artistic practices in a context of a pandemic.

Practical information

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