

PI ARTWORKS LONDON

Susan Hefuna TEXTILES

Dates: 24 May - 22 June 2019

Location: Pi Artworks, London

Private View: 23 May 2019, 6.30pm - 8.30pm



Stand Up, 2019, Felt, Gaze, Thread, 55 x 64 cm

TEXTILES is Susan Hefuna's seventh solo exhibition with Pi Artworks. Bringing together a curated selection of textile and costume works, *TEXTILES* showcases new works such as *Stand Up* (2019) alongside costumes and masks previously used for performances in Dubai, UAE (2008); *Mapping Vienna*, at the Opera Ball in Vienna, Austria (2010); and *Crossroads Stein*, in Stein am Rhein, Switzerland (2018).

Hefuna's black dresses are minimalistic cut and style and based on the simplest geometric shapes: squares, rectangles, circles. A few scissor cuts, stitches and darts turn black Egyptian cotton into clothes that only reveal the presence of a body. Instead of patterns or designs, there are letters, words, connected dots and lines, similar to the artist's well known drawings on tracing paper. The clothes and huge bags with letters act as posters, their graffiti like words and signs admonishing one to read.

Susan Hefuna brings ethnic influences from her dual Germany and Egyptian heritage and from her journeys around the world. Hefuna works within *TEXTILES* are inspired by the Swabian-Alemannic carnival which she has great enthusiasm for. The events, which take place in the settlement areas of the Germanic tribes of the traditions of the Swabians and Alemanns mixes in Hefuna's works with her interest for African traditions and her admiration for the Ballets Russes costumes.

Hefuna's work forms intersections between cultures. Her unique garment pieces become moving messages. Hefuna's art works are moving slowly from one point to another through time and space. *Patience is beautiful* reminds us of ceremonial priest's vestments. Susan Hefuna's message in her textile works is quiet, subtle and at the same time strong: *Anta Omri* adorning a costume is the title of a song by the famous Egyptian singer Om Kalthoum. *You are my Destiny*. She - that's each of us.

About Susan Hefuna

Susan Hefuna's work has been included in numerous international solo and group exhibitions. Exhibitions include: *But a Storm Is Blowing from Paradise* curated by Sara Raza, Galleria d'Arte Moderna (GAM), Milan; *The Creative Act: Performance Process Presence*, Guggenheim Abu Dhabi; *Contemporary Art of the Middle East*, LACMA, Los Angeles; *Drawing Through the Twentieth Century*, MoMA, New York. A major survey of her practice curated by Hoor Al Quasimi *Susan Hefuna: Another Place* was held at Bait Al Serkal, Sharjah Art Foundation. Hefuna's work has also been included in the Sydney Biennale, Venice Biennale, Seville Biennial, Riwaq Biennale and Sharjah Biennial. Susan Hefuna was awarded the international Contemporary Drawing Prize of the Daniel & Florence Guerlain Art Foundation in Paris. Her work is part of the permanent collections at the Pompidou, Paris; Guggenheim, NYC and Abu Dhabi; British Museum and V&A, London.

For more information, please contact the gallery at london@piartworks.com or Ece at piartworkslondon@piartworks.com or +442076378403.

Title: TEXTILES
Address: 55 Eastcastle Street, London, W1W 8EG
Website: www.piartworks.com
Dates: 24 May - 22 June 2019
Private View: Thursday 23 May 2019, 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Opening Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 6pm, Saturday 12pm (noon) to 6pm
Social Media: @piartworks