

Nora Turato: *pool7*

9 April – 8 June 2025

Lower Galleries and Concourse



Nora Turato, *pool7*, 2025. Image courtesy the artist.

The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA), London is proud to present the first solo exhibition in the UK by Amsterdam-based artist Nora Turato (b. 1991, Zagreb). Taking place across the ICA's Lower Galleries and Concourse, *pool7* features a site-specific exhibition of newly commissioned work spanning performance, writing, graphic design, video and sound. With this exhibition, Turato introduces new experimental work in an ambitious project that is the artist's most personal to date.

In recent years, Nora Turato has established herself as one of the most exciting new voices in contemporary art. Throughout her work across performance, installation, graphic design, publishing and video, Turato investigates our collective relationship to language and the everyday forms we rely on for communication and self-expression. Introducing her work to UK audiences for the first time, Turato's exhibition follows notable exhibitions and performances at Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2024), Kunsthalle Vienna (2024), and Museum of Modern Art, New York (2022). The artist returns to the ICA having previously performed as part of *Image Behaviour* (2019), a season dedicated to experiments in artists' moving image.

At yearly intervals, Turato creates text 'pools', collections of found language she gathers and samples from a range of sources such as media headlines, conversations with friends, books, advertising, overheard speech and online

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content. Through bold, graphic installations and commanding solo performances the artist mines this found language to expose the absurdities, ideologies and pleasures that characterise communication today. Turato has explored the anxiety-ridden language of the wellness industry, channelled a slippery salesman, and highlighted the disembodied voices of the internet and advertising. A sharp-sighted mirror, Turato's work deftly reveals the ineffable qualities of the zeitgeist.

In a three-part installation of text, video and audio work, this exhibition debuts Turato's latest text 'pool', seeing the artist increasingly incorporate her own original writing alongside found language. Text on A4 sheets of paper line the walls, short documentary videos feature the artist's physical gestures, and her voice reverberates in an audio installation. Throughout these works, Turato rejects the primacy of image-making in art while each element pulses with her characteristic wit, playfulness, and radical subversion.

In the final weeks of the programme, Turato will present a new performance to accompany the exhibition at the ICA. With this performance, the artist confronts a collective disembodiment, a cultural obsession with surface image that disregards the body and emotion. Cries, screams and sobs are incorporated alongside Turato's original writing, tapping into reactions we suppress with age and conditionally reserve for exceptional pain, danger, grief or ecstasy. Here, the artist introduces an improvised way of shaping her work, deviating from the script-based approach used in previous performances.

pool7 responds to the attenuation of language today, the growing distance between what is true and what feels reasonable due to sheer repetition or social norms. The exhibition operates in a rhetorical mode that pulls audiences into the same urgent, embodied, curious place the artist herself inhabits. It is a sincere attempt to locate meaning by a consummate trickster, yet fitting of a voracious researcher whose oeuvre has long appealed to common sense. With this exhibition, Turato offers herself up as example: as an artist who wholly lives her work.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a full calendar of public events, including an artist talk, performance dates, workshops, and more to be announced.

A limited-edition artist print and a hoodie created exclusively for ICA will be available to purchase at the Shop and via shop.ica.art, released to coincide with the exhibition. More details to follow.

Priority booking for ICA Members will be on sale from 10am on Wednesday 5 February. General booking will be available from 10am on Tuesday 11 February. For information about tickets and membership, please visit ica.art or contact: sales@ica.art / +44 (0)20 7930 3647

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Nora Turato says:

'I am incredibly excited to bring *pool7* to the ICA, an exhibition which proposes a new direction, introducing body and movement further throughout my work, as well as more original text. The ICA, a place steeped in history of experimentation and support of non-traditional art forms, has been the perfect catalyst and space to realise the next cycle in the "pool" series, a chapter that has been a long time in the making.'

Andrea Nitsche-Krupp, ICA Exhibitions Curator says:

'The ICA, in the words of a founder Sir Herbert Read, would "rather be thought of as a laboratory than as a museum...where a new vision, a new consciousness is being evolved." Nora Turato's exhibition is a fitting continuation of this prompt, as she hones and expands her practice to a place of generous discomfort, such that we recognise ourselves and this particular moment.'

Bengi Ünsal, ICA Director says:

'We are thrilled that Nora Turato will realise a major new exhibition at ICA this spring. With works that command our attention across different mediums, Nora's exhibition forms an intrinsic part of the ICA's programme this year, as we forge connections between disciplines and continue to embrace bold experimentation, and champion new and emerging artistic talent.'

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Artist Biography:

Nora Turato (b.1991 Zagreb, Croatia) is an artist based in Amsterdam, NL. The breadth of Turato's work encompasses text-based installations, prints, books and performances, placing language as the central anchor of her practice. Turato's work often weaves in collected language, as well as original text, channelling the constant stream of material into an original narrative she deconstructs and shapes through her multifaceted practice. Working within periodic cycles referred to as 'pools', Turato reflects on particular current cultural and societal tendencies, specifically, the language and zeitgeist that define these shifts. Turato's series of artist books – also titled pools – accompany each cycle, with Turato likening them to 'annual reports' of the compiled text and language of that year.

Recent solo exhibitions include Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2024), Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna (2024), Sprüth Magers, Los Angeles (2024), Sprüth Magers, Berlin (2023), Museum of Modern Art, New York (2022), Secession, Vienna (2021), MGLC: International Centre of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana (2020), Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf (2020), Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto (2019), Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein (2019) and Beursschouwburg, Brussels (2019). Turato has participated in numerous group exhibitions at MUDAM, Luxembourg (2024), TANK, Shanghai (2023), Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2022), Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo (2022), Kunsthalle Basel, Basel (2021), amongst others. Turato unveiled a large-scale public art installation at Art on the Mart, Chicago in the spring of 2024. In 2023, Turato produced a commissioned performance for the Performa Biennial in New York.

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About the Institute of Contemporary Arts:

The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) is London's leading space for contemporary culture. We commission, produce and present new work in film, music, performance and the visual arts by today's most progressive artists. In our landmark home on The Mall in central London, we invite artists and audiences to interrogate what it means to live in our world today, with a genre-fluid programme that challenges the past, questions the present and confronts the future.

The ICA platforms the daring and the curious, supporting artists and ideas that challenge perceptions, inspire social change, and connect with diverse audiences locally and globally. As a space for bold, boundary-pushing creativity, we cultivate connections across disciplines, communities, and cultures. Our cross-disciplinary programming invites audiences to explore beyond the boundaries of individual art forms, fostering experimentation and the discovery of new perspectives. Open to all voices and ideas, we embrace interplay and interaction across club nights, film festivals, gigs, exhibitions, talks, and digital art. With inclusivity and collaboration at the heart of our work, we remain fearless in shaping contemporary creativity, connecting diverse voices, and making unexpected connections that define the future of arts and culture.

Our history of presenting and promoting visionary new art is unrivalled in London: from Kenneth Anger to Kathy Acker, Kano to Klein, Jackson Pollock to Jean-Michel Basquiat, Gay Sweatshop to Forensic Architecture, David Bowie to Stormzy, Pop Art to queer techno. Today, as ever, our inclusive programme reflects and represents who we are as a disparate and diverse collection of cultures and identities.

Exactly 78 years after a group of artists and poets founded the ICA as an alternative to the mainstream, we are committed more than ever to pave the way for the next generation and to platform creative voices. The ICA continues to celebrate risk and champion innovation, and experimentation across the arts – a playground and a home for today's most vital artists.

Central to the ICA's vision and mission is a commitment to diversity, equality, and inclusion at all levels of the organisation. We want to create and maintain an ICA that is a positive environment where similarities and differences of people are valued – a space where everyone belongs and feels welcome. We hold ourselves accountable through our regularly reviewed Anti-Racism Strategic Plan; Equality and Diversity Policy and Action Plan; and Safety Policy.

Since its inception, the ICA has been the home of future-thinking ideas and urgent cultural discourse. We are committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment that encourages dialogue and debate, recognising that differing viewpoints are essential to the advancement of contemporary arts and culture.

The ICA is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

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Access

If you have an access requirement that we can assist you with, please contact us in advance of your visit for more information at access@ica.art and we will make our best endeavours to help you. Full venue accessibility information can be found here, and you can download an accessibility map of the venue at ica.art/media/01795.pdf

Press Enquiries

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To download press images, visit [ICA's Dropbox](#)

Visitor Information

Tickets: £6 full price
All Members go free

Monday: Closed
Tue, Wed, Thu: 4pm – 9pm
Fri, Sat, Sun: 12pm – 9pm

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