



marta santos

works 2013-2016

Marta Santos or the seduction of humble materials

If we identify an artist as the individual that brings and deploys a life's Project while posing his/her own sight on the world that surrounds him/her, it is also true that the artist has to find his/her own alphabet to express the possibilities that his/her spirit carries. This is a main step in tracing his/her very own path as, without it, he would come across as an aesthete satisfied by his/her own emotions.

There is no doubt that Marta Santos fits perfectly in this definition of the artist as a Project holder. She has felt the urge to express her own sensations and ideas, since her childhood. To answer this call, she had to learn the means that would help her shape her inner insights. Drawing and painting were her long ago passions until she discovered the possibilities of sculpting while learning iron welding techniques.

The contemporary artist, even more than the classic artist must be able to use different media and make courageous choices amongst all options available to the point of eventually creating his/her own materials and supports. The world becomes an infinite reservoir that allows him/ her to make the choices of colors and materials that fit her own insights. The artist will then lift them up to become art, while shaping their new life and leaving behind the industrial origins of those objects. This is the virtue of the retrieved object that unveils facets that were hidden by its primary, utilitarian and commercial features.

Picasso gives birth to a bull's head out of a cycle's saddle & handlebar. Tapiés makes a bush out of a broom. Penone includes vegetables in his artwork. Annette Messager uses embroidery and plush toys in her installations. All of them are examples that Marta has approached before making the choice of using cords and textiles in her works. These materials provide the consistency and fluidity that allow her to create flowing pieces and soften and dress solid matters like iron and Wood. In her creations opposing or complementary aspects of her personality link with each other- hard and soft materials become universal symbols. This quest for sense goes beyond her artistic expression.

Jacques Luchessi, art critic, Marseille, January 3rd 2017



FLUIR (flowing) 2013
Mixed media: wood, cords
162x158x20cm



NOWHERE-Now Here
2016

Mixed media:
iron, rubber, toys,
cords 190x90x45cm

the no place of the
here and now, the
passage between two
times, the place of all
possibilities, the leap
over the emptiness of
every exile, inside and
outside.



UNE PEUR BLEUE 2014
Mixed media: wood, textile, plaster
70x59x18cm

UN COEUR ENSOLEILLE
(a sunny heart) 2015
Mixed media: wood, textile, cords
136x73x30cm





VIAJO SOLA
(I travel alone) 2016
Mixed media: textile,
coir, wood
194x158x16cm

BOUCLER LA BOUCLE
(Closing the loop) 2014
Mixed media:textile, coir,
cords 134x154x26cm



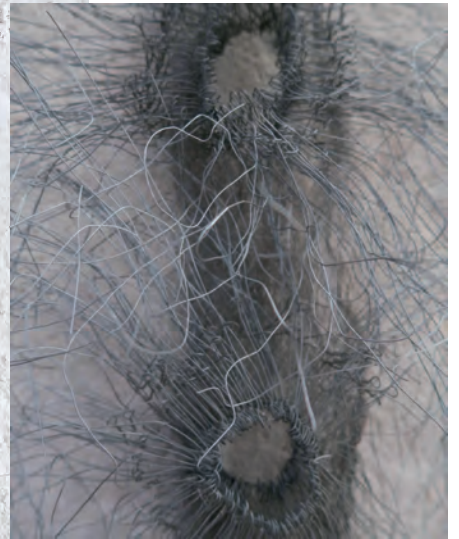
I see my work as a metaphor in which I follow the fault lines of affect or memory, making and revealing arrangements intuitively, finding creative associations between apparently disconnected objects and materials. My sculptures and installations, which are often wall-based, challenge long held views of sculpture as something rigid and open up my work to exist in its own terms and defy categorization. The use of typically discarded materials comes from my interest to reuse, transform and the intrinsic desire to connect and find life.

I like to preserve a certain «otherness,» remaining in a disciplinary twilight zone between painting and sculpture. I paint with fabric that brings into my work a little nostalgia, a sensory and feminine experience that links perfectly with more masculine materials as iron, wood made structures. It also brings the tactile experiences of cutting, and tearing as well as the colors and contrasts of my Spanish roots... The colorful, baroque and almodovarian Spain and the mystic and austere one, a place where tragedy connects with lightness, where death is just a consequence of life.

Marta Santos. Marseille february 14th 2017



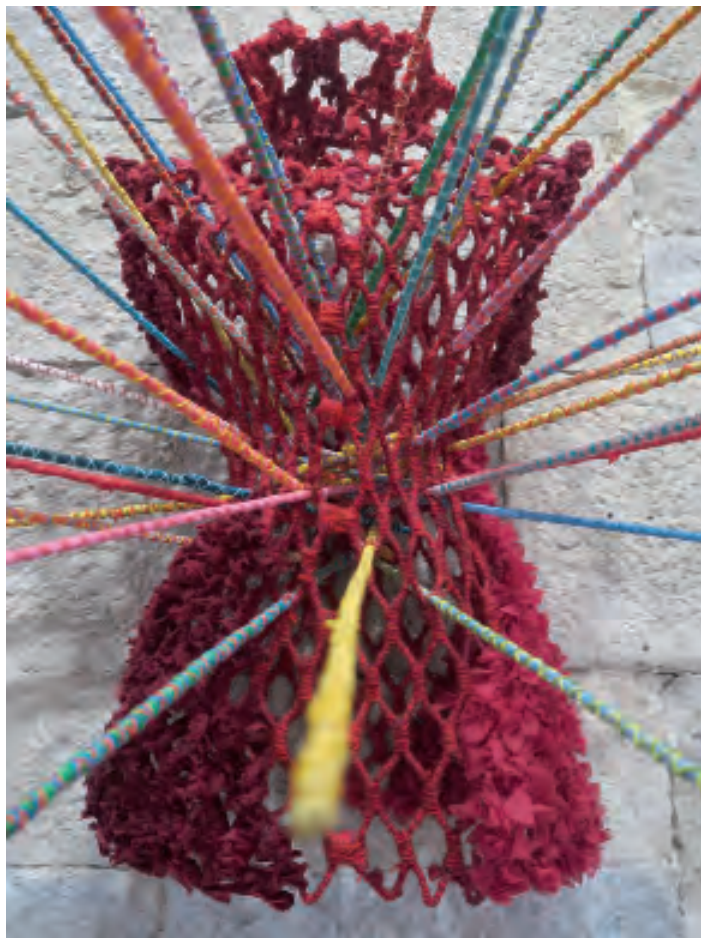
OPUS NIGRUM 2015
Mixed media: wire, textile, cords
145x136x59cm



SHADES OF GREY 2014
steel wool & wire
103x30cm/ 102x40cm/ 62x40cm

IN MEMORIAM 2016
Mixed media: iron, horn,
textile, cords
250x74x34cm





BLOW OUT 2014
Mixed media: sewing bust,
textile, wood, cords
112x32x83cm



DREAM CATCHER 2013
Mixed media: wood,
wool, textile, cords
178x194x40cm



ATAME (tie me up) 2013
Mixed media: plastic,
textile, cords
16x17x26cm



NEO 2013
Mixed media: puppet,
textile, cords
52x30x26cm

JE VEUX DU SOLEIL
(I want sun) 2016
Mixed media: iron, textile, cords.
68x80x80cm.



MARSELLA 2013
Mixed media: wood, iron cords.
209x66x16cm





MES PETITES COLERES I 2015
Mixed media: wood, textile, plaster
56x23cm



MES PETITES COLERES II 2015
Mixed media: wood, textile, toys
80x36x22cm



GARGOUILLE. (detail) 2016
Mixed media: wood, textile, cords
155x22x35cm



Solo Exhibitions

2016

« Sous toutes les coutures », Pôle culturel des comtes de provence, Brignoles. France

2014

« Atando cabos », Galerie POC, Marseille. France

2013

Auditorio Municipal de Boadilla del Monte. Spain
« Atando Cabos », Invisible Galerie, Marseille. France

2010

« Vuelta a casa », Instituto Cervantes, Toulouse. France

2008

Galerie des Carmes, Toulouse. France

Collective Exhibitions

2016

Arts Vagabonds, Soreze. France

« Rêver sa ville 1st edition », Beziers. France

« Nature », POC Galerie, Marseille. France

« Je n'aime pas le bleue », Invisible Galerie, Marseille. France

2015

« Vaya tela », Invisible Galerie, Marseille. France

2014

« De face et de profil », Invisible Galerie, Marseille. France

2013

Artistes a suivre, Haute Vallée de l'Aude. France (2013 edition)

2012

« Resonances ». 3F Galerie, Paris. France

2011

« La magie des suden », Gelsenkirchen. Germany

Artistes a suivre, Haute Vallée de l'Aude (2011 edition). France

« Departs », Galerie des Carmes, Toulouse. France

2010

Artistes a suivre, Haute Vallée de l'Aude. France (2010 edition)

Hotel de ventes St. Aubin Toulouse

« Gritos desde el sur », Club de Golf Vieille Toulouse. France

2009

« La vuelta del arte », Cervera del Maestre, Spain

« Arte contemporaneo europeo », MUCBE, Benicarlo, Spain

« El dia del espanol » Instituto Cervantes, Toulouse. France

Residencies

September 2005. CatArt (contemporary art center), Ste Colombe sur l'Hers, France

June 2012. Le printemps du Couvent a Le Couvent, artist residency. Auzits. France



www.marta-santos.com
telephone: +33 674666046
marta.santos.romero@gmail.com