

UNSUBMISSIVE GAZES

Opening 25.05.2023 - 19H

FLIPA Art Gallery· Passeig del Born, 14

«The first feminist gesture is to say: “OK, they’re looking at me. But I’m looking at them”. The act of deciding to look, of deciding the world is not defined by how people see me, but how I see them» (Agnès Varda, *Filmer le désir: voyage à travers le cinéma des femmes*, 2000). For centuries, art history, film and visual culture have been shaped by an hegemonic and omnipresent gaze, anchored in the patriarchal system, that has dominated the representation of the body and constructed our way of looking at the world. To decide which bodies are seen and which are made invisible, and above all the ways in which they are presented, has been a choice available to few, employed to further a very particular way of seeing, objectifying and sentencing these bodies to passivity and taking away their own gaze. In ‘UNSUBMISSIVE GAZES’, we recover the words of Agnès Varda to perform a collective gesture towards the deconstruction of the hegemonic gaze and lay out a set of alternative approaches: new ways of seeing and seeing ourselves, of reappropriating images and opening spaces where other forms of representation are possible.

This collective exhibition brings together a group of works from different mediums —photography, painting, installation and sculpture— that imagine different perspectives of the body and unfold new dynamics between looking and being looked at. Through pieces that explore violence, intimacy, ableism, body diversity or the ideas around femininity/masculinity, we aim to instigate new points of view and fracture the singular, reductive gaze that crystallizes the body and converts it into an empty object.