

MATERIAL AS NARRATIVE

KOLEKT Exhibition, Amsterdam, 2024

Exhibition Text

"Material as Narrative" is an exhibition where texture serves as a central element in the construction of visual narratives. The works on view invite the audience to pause and reflect on moments captured in material and photography, provoking contemplation on the nature of matter itself. The tactile qualities of the pieces, whether delicate or bold, become storytellers, communicating nuanced meanings, emotions, and contexts. This exhibition explores the vast diversity of textures, fostering a dialogue about the relationship between material and narrative, as well as the dynamic between artist and artwork.

The featured works prompt an inquiry into how materials shape our perceptions of both art and the world around us, revealing how our understanding of reality can be influenced by the physical characteristics and origins of these materials. Emphasizing not only the materials themselves, the exhibition also considers the role of light and shadow in accentuating texture. The interplay of shadows and reflections enhances the subtleties of the materials, encouraging a more profound engagement with form. Ultimately, "Material as Narrative" offers an opportunity to rethink the connections between material, art, and everyday experience.

Brochure Text

"Material as Narrative" speaks to the profound intimacy of surfaces, a realm where texture becomes a language. Here, material is not merely what the eye sees; it is what the mind can touch, an entry point into a deeper understanding of form and its presence. The textures—coarse, delicate, impenetrable—demand engagement beyond passive observation. A layered narrative is woven into the fabric, insisting that we acknowledge matter not only as substance, but substance with meaning and memory.

In the featured works, there is a suggestion that objects hold within them something of life's essence—a tactile record of history, intention, and transformation. Shadows waver, illuminating not just form but the artist's invisible dialogue with the material. This dynamic interplay of silent exchanges suggests a living, breathing process which refuses to settle, that exists in a flicker between what is seen and what is felt.

Texture operates as a conduit for reflection, a bridge between the viewer and the world of objects. We are reminded that to engage with material is to encounter a form of narrative that is visceral, a raw truth embedded in the grain of everyday experience. In effect, looking at surfaces challenges us to see the world not as a backdrop but as an active participant, textured and alive, carrying its own stories, etched and ingrained in every fiber of itself.