



# ARPY GOKCEYAN

# Les fils invisibles de la mémoire

#### **ARPY GOKCEYAN**

Winner of the TAMAT Prize in the *Tremplin 2024* competition organized by BeCraft, Arpy Gokceyan takes over TAMAT with *Les fils invisibles de la mémoire* (*The Invisible Threads of Memory*), a carte blanche project in which textiles and porcelain intertwine to evoke the subtle links between matter and memory.

Arpy Gokceyan was born in Beirut (Lebanon) to Armenian parents and is now based in Brussels. Her work explores issues of identity, memory, and transmission through porcelain installations that reinterpret traditional Mediterranean crafts such as sewing, crochet, and marquetry. By combining craftsmanship and contemporary materials, she creates sensitive archives of a collective memory in peril.

## LES FILS INVISIBLES DE LA MÉMOIRE

Beneath the fragile whiteness of porcelain, familiar objects grow veiled, like memories lightly brushed. A sewing machine, a saucepan, a photo frame... fragments of domestic life wrapped in fabric frozen in light. Nearby, porcelain «spool spinning-tops», each marked by the trace of a vanished thread, spin silently around their own history.

These invisible imprints tell what words cannot: gestures passed down, inherited silences, absences that weave identity. The installation unfolds an intimate cartography where the threads of memory, though invisible, connect generations through matter.

Arpy Gokceyan comes from generations who lived and worked around textiles: seamstresses, tailors, crocheters, sewing thread merchants. In this installation, she pays tribute to these everyday skills, passed down through hands, observation, and objects. These gestures, though dormant, continue to resonate in the material.

#### **BECRAFT**

BeCraft is a professional association promoting applied arts in the Wallonia and Brussels regions. Ceramics, glass, jewelry, paper, textiles, and object design are among the creative fields in which the artists supported and promoted by the association work.

BeCraft's actions are driven by four main objectives: supporting and promoting its member artists in Belgium and abroad; informing and educating the public and professionals in the field through exhibitions, conferences, workshops, and guided tours.

### **CONTEST «TREMPLIN»**

Special attention is paid to the creators of tomorrow. With this in mind, the association organizes the annual *Tremplin* exhibition, a competition for recent graduates of art schools in Wallonia and Brussels.

The exhibition of their final projects showcases a new landscape of Belgian creativity in full swing, while giving them a professional boost thanks to the prizes awarded on this occasion.

>> Portrait of Arpy Gokceyan by BeCraft.org



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# RELATED PROGRAMMING // AT TAMAT // ONLY FRENCH SPEAKING

- Sat. October 18, 2pm > 5pm: CROCHET WORKSHOP

  Echoing Arpy Gokceyan's work, in wich the crocheted doily plays a central role, join an introductory workshop on this ancestral craft, led by the artist Elodie Derache.
- Thur. November 27, 6:30 pm: ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION When textiles inspire contemporary ceramics

In parallel with Arpy Gokceyan's exhibition, this event explores the links between textiles and contemporary ceramics. Or how artists are creating new bridges by playing with textures, patterns, and craftsmanship. With Arpy Gokceyan, Ornella La Vaccara (BeCraft), and Jean-Marc Dimanche, co-director of Ceramic Brussels.

- Sun. February 2, 2:30 pm > 5:30 pm: WORKSHOP ON CERAMIC PRINTING TECHNIQUES

Explore various printing techniques on raw clay, inspired by contemporary tapestries, under the artistic guidance of Olivia Mortier.

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