

Virginia Marano

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After completing her undergraduate studies at the University of Siena (UniSi) in 2015 with a thesis on the analysis of the concept of space between the sculptural research of Alberto Giacometti and the theatrical aesthetics of Samuel Beckett, she received a master's degree in Contemporary Art History *with honors* from the UniSi with a thesis on Alberto Giacometti and the phenomenology of perception. She did a four-month internship at Mumok (2017, Vienna), a three-month internship at Artipelag (2018, Stockholm) and published reviewed articles and exhibition catalogue essays about contemporary artists, such as Rui Chafes, Ulrika Sparre and Klara Kristalova.

Since September 2018, she has been awarded an ESKAS doctoral scholarship at the University of Zurich under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Tristan Weddigen, the co-supervision of Prof. Dr. Joachim Pissarro, Hunter College, of CUNY, and Prof. Dr. Giovanna Zapperi, Université François-Rabelais, Tours. Her PhD project is entitled "Diasporic Home and Exiled Bodies: Spaces of Memory in the Work of Jewish Women Sculptors in Post-War New York". Her thesis represents the first attempt to contribute to the understanding of Jewishness and trauma in the work of women artists in Post-war New York, previously assimilated to feminism but not yet connected to the question of exile. This year, she has been awarded a SNSF (Swiss National Science Foundation) Doc. Mobility research fellowship. Her doctoral thesis would reach its completion during her stay at Hunter College (CUNY) in New York starting in September 2021 for a 12-months research.

Since September 2020, she is working together with her two colleagues, Laura Valterio and Charlotte Matter on a research project "[Rethinking Art history through Disability](#)". The project came out of the wish to give visibility to a topic which has not gained much scholarly attention so far. In order to underscore the importance of rethinking the way they approach art history through the lens of the non-normative body, the project focuses on the visibility of functional diversity as well as of disability as a social model and construct.