

## MEDIA RELEASE

08.03. 15.06.2025**Małgorzata Mirga-Tas**  
Eine alternative Geschichte

Małgorzata Mirga-Tas (\*1978) was the first ever Roma to represent a country at the Venice Biennale. In 2022, her expansive textile images entitled *Re-Enchanting the World* in the Polish pavilion captivated the public. The exhibition at the Kunstmuseum Luzern extends over four rooms and focuses on the aspect of community. In addition to the textile images, the work groups with paravents and *Herstories* are presented. Her film *Noncia* is being shown for the first time in the context of an exhibition.

Małgorzata Mirga-Tas collects fabrics from among her family members and friends in order to tell viewers, from a feminist viewpoint, about the everyday life of the Roma, and also about their rather stigmatising, stereotypical, and often racist depiction throughout the history of European art. Together with women from her community, the artist creates highly expressive images out of tablecloths, curtains, bed linen and items of clothing. These images tell us about heroines and mystical figures, but also about the suppression, persecution and marginalisation of the Roma. By showing protagonists who have been overlooked for so long, Małgorzata Mirga-Tas provides an alternative to the established historiography. Her *Herstories* make up an archive of Roma women who have freed themselves from patriarchal structures and now forcefully occupy space – within the Roma community and in the exhibition. In her work *Re-Enchanting the World*, the artist deconstructs stereotypical depictions, strengthens her own community and reveals a diversity of voices. Inspired by the frescoes in Palazzo Schifanoia in Ferrara, Italy, she has developed her own pictorial cycle: instead of heavenly and earthly scenes from the ancient pictorial programme, she presents her Roma community, which in Europe accounts for more than ten million people.

Mirga-Tas's oeuvre challenges to us to read images critically: What is depicted, by whom and with what intention? Ultimately, the artist addresses the theme of access to the public sphere, so important today for democratic coexistence. Which histories are being told anyway? In brief: «Who speaks?»

Małgorzata Mirga-Tas is a Polish Romni, who, as an artist, pedagogue and activist, campaigns for the visibility of her community. She lives and works in Czarna Góra, a village in the voivodeship, or province, of Lesser Poland. Since its presentation at the 59<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale her work has gained wider recognition and she has been awarded the Polish cultural prize Paszporty Polityki and the Tajsja Roma Cultural Heritage Prize.

curated by Fanni Fetzner

## **DATES**

### **Media Preview**

Friday, 07.03., 10.15 am

### **Opening**

Friday, 07.03., from pm

Greeting and introduction

Andi Scheitlin, President Kunstgesellschaft Luzern

Fanni Fetzer, Director Kunstmuseum Luzern

### **Events**

All events take place in German. For more press information in English, please contact us:

[caroline.glock@kunstmuseumluzern.ch](mailto:caroline.glock@kunstmuseumluzern.ch). or [hannah.winters@kunstmuseumluzern.ch](mailto:hannah.winters@kunstmuseumluzern.ch)

### **Talk in the Exhibition**

**Saturday, 08.03., 1 pm**

Guided tour with the artist Małgorzata Mirga-Tas and the curators Andreas Beitin, Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Fanni Fetzer, Kunstmuseum Luzern, and Caroline Ugelstad, Henie Onstad Kunstsenter

### **Introduction for Teachers**

**Wednesday, 12.03., 5 pm**

### **Guided Tour for the generation 60plus**

**Thursday, 10.04., 3.30 pm**

### **The Curator as Guide**

**Wednesday, 07.05., 6 pm**

Guided tour with Fanni Fetzer

### **Feeling instead of Seeing**

**Sunday, 11.05., 11 am**

Experience the exhibition through different senses.

### **Open Studio**

**Sunday, 01.06., 1–5 pm**

There are creative activities for people of all ages in the Art Education Room.

### **Public Tours**

Wednesday 6 pm and Sundays 11 am according to website

### **Schools**

Various offers for all levels

**In cooperation with Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Høvikodden, und Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg**

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