

# Kunsthalle Wien

## Press release

### Diego Marcon. *La Gola* 4.10.2024–2.2.2025

Kunsthalle Wien presents the first solo exhibition in Austria by Diego Marcon (b. 1985, Busto Arsizio). The exhibition sees the Kunsthalle's ground floor space in the MuseumsQuartier transformed into a bespoke theatre to present his new film *La Gola* (2024). Marcon's work draws upon different cinematic vocabularies from diverse genres including musicals, melodrama, horror and slapstick comedy. His uncanny, singular imagery employs various technical devices such as robotics, prosthetics and CGI. This is supported by musical scores or scripts that deploy spoken language and sound.

*La Gola* (2024) is structured by a series of letters between two correspondents, Gianni and Rossana. Over the course of eight letters, Gianni describes the successive courses of an exquisite banquet, while Rossana gives an account of the progressive decline of her mother's health. The two characters are played by hyperrealistic mannequins, that appear motionless with their eyes modelled and animated in CGI. Their voices are accompanied by an original score composed by Federico Chiari. The music was performed on a Pietro Corna organ and recorded in the Cattedrale di Sant'Alessandro Martire in Bergamo. Drawing upon themes familiar from art history, Marcon playfully combines graphic accounts of cuisine and disease against an elaborate and energetic score, using language, voices and music to create dramatic tension.

The film follows a series of recent works that explore what the artist describes as 'ambiguity as a political weapon of defiance.' In *La Gola* the characters are so absorbed in their own drama that they fail to listen to one another, appearing devoid of empathy. The two narratives run in parallel alternating between moments of poetry, seduction, sadness and abjection. Intentional, or 'deliberate' ambiguity (as it is referred to in global politics) here becomes a narrative device and an instrument of critique, producing a situation that is strongly resonant of our time.

#### Biography

Diego Marcon (b. 1985, Busto Arsizio, Italy) has held solo exhibitions at Kunstverein in Hamburg (2024); Kunsthalle Basel; Centro Pecci, Prato; Fondazione Nicola Trussardi, Milan (all 2023); Museo Madre, Naples (2021); Institute of Contemporary Art Singapore/LASALLE, Singapore (2019); and Triennale Milano, Milan (2018). His work has been presented within numerous group surveys including *Nebula*, organised by Fondazione In Between Art Film for the 60th Venice Biennale; the *Biennale de l'Image en Mouvement 2024*, Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève (both 2024); and the 59th Venice Biennale (2022). Marcon's films have also been screened at Tate Modern, London (2024); Cannes Film Festival; the Viennale, Vienna (both 2021); and the International Film Festival Rotterdam (2018). He lives and works in Milan.

#### Exhibition Publication

The exhibition is accompanied by a new book, published by Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève, Kunsthalle Wien and Kunstverein in Hamburg. Designed by Julie Peeters it is richly illustrated with production images and includes Marcon's script for the film in addition to excerpts of the musical score and specially-commissioned texts by Charlie Fox, Gianni Revello and Sofia Silva.

Edited by Michelle Cotton  
Softcover, 104 pages  
English, German and Italian  
ISBN: 978-3-903412-24-8  
Price: € 25

#### Limited Edition

A limited edition by Diego Marcon is available from Kunsthalle Wien's shop. This artist edition is a record of the newly commissioned film score of Diego Marcon's film *La Gola* (2024). Composed by Federico Chiari, it was recorded on an organ in the seventeenth-century Cattedrale di Sant'Alessandro Martire in Bergamo. The record sleeve shows renderings of the two film protagonists – hyper-realistic mannequins animated with CGI technology. All proceeds support Kunsthalle Wien's programme. Available in the shop at Kunsthalle Wien Museumsquartier. For further information and to order, please contact: [shop@kunsthallewien.at](mailto:shop@kunsthallewien.at) or +43-1-52189-333

Diego Marcon, *La Gola*, 2024  
record, red vinyl, 12", 33 RPM, 140gr  
Signed and numbered edition (50 pieces)  
€ 100

Diego Marcon, *La Gola*, 2024  
record, red vinyl, 12", 33 RPM, 140gr  
limited edition (180 pieces)  
€ 35

#### Kunsthalle Wien thanks

Kunsthalle Wien is financed by Magistratsabteilung Kultur der Stadt Wien (MA7). The exhibition by Diego Marcon is supported by the Italian Cultural Institute in Vienna on the occasion of the Giornata del Contemporaneo. *La Gola* was produced by Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève, Kunsthalle Wien and Kunstverein in Hamburg with additional support from Sadie Coles HQ, London, and Galerie Buchholz, Berlin/Cologne/New York. The accompanying publication is supported by the Directorate General for Contemporary Creativity of the Italian Ministry of Culture under the Italian Council programme (2024).

[Press images to download](#)

<https://kunsthallewien.at/en/exhibition/diego-marcon-la-gola/press/>

Installation shots from the exhibition will be available via this link from 3 October 2024 on.

Diego Marcon, *La Gola*, 2024, still, © Diego Marcon. Courtesy the artist; Sadie Coles HQ, London; Galerie Buchholz, Berlin/Cologne/New York.



### Short text for Listings

From 4 October on Kunsthalle Wien presents Diego Marcon's latest film *La Gola* (35mm film, CGI animation, colour, sound, 22'22", 2024), which roughly translates to 'the belly'. Utilising different genres, from horror to musical, the film follows an exchange of letters between two characters, Gianni and Rossana. Gianni describes the successive courses of an exquisite banquet while Rossana recounts the excruciating details of her mother's illness. For Marcon's first solo exhibition in Austria, the Kunsthalle's groundfloor space in the MuseumsQuartier is transformed into a cinematic environment, in a camp exaggeration of cinematic codes.

### Notes to Editors

*Diego Marcon. La Gola*

4 October 2024–2 February 2025

Kunsthalle Wien Museumsquartier

#DiegoMarcon

Opening: 3 October 2024, 7pm

Film screening and artist talk at Stadtkino Wien

A special programme of short films and videos by Diego Marcon followed by a conversation between the artist and Eva Sangiorgi, Director Viennale.

19 November 2024, 8pm

In cooperation with Stadtkino Wien

### Guided tours

Guided tours are offered in English, German, Einfacher Sprache [Plain German] and ÖGS [Austrian Sign Language].

Guided tours in English

24.10.2024, 23.1.2025, 18:00 (free admission)

Curator tour with Hannah Marynissen, Assistant Curator Kunsthalle Wien in English

1.12.2024, 17:00 (free with admission ticket)

Guided tours in German

10.10., 14.11., 28.11., 12.12.2024, 9.1.2025, 18:00 (free admission)

Guided tours in Einfache Sprache [Plain German]

14.12.2024, 14:00, 30.1.2025, 18:00 (free admission)

### About Kunsthalle Wien

Kunsthalle Wien is the City of Vienna's primary institution for contemporary art. At its locations in the MuseumsQuartier and on Karlsplatz, it presents an annual programme of exhibitions alongside public and educational programming that seeks to engage diverse publics. We provide a platform for artists, commissioning new works and partnering with individuals and institutions, both local and international, to develop exhibitions and publications based on original research. Kunsthalle Wien is committed to providing an inclusive space for exchange and debate and furthering the discourse on contemporary art in all its forms.

### Address and Information

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