

RELATIONAL

The closing chapter of our SAD GENERATION WITH HAPPY PICTURES series is written by Viviane Herzog, whose solo exhibition RELATIONAL presents a profoundly textured meditation on the nature of human connection. Through a carefully woven constellation of paintings, textiles, and a site-specific installation, Herzog explores the emotional, social, and political fabrics that bind and sometimes fray between individuals and communities.

Her works do not propose easy harmonies; rather, they reveal connection as an ongoing negotiation—fragile, resilient, and always in flux. The THANDA series, composed of oil paintings on salvaged textiles sourced in South Africa, becomes a tactile investigation into questions of equality, justice, and global interdependence. The surfaces, imbued with the histories of everyday fabrics are stretched across frames, some yielding easily, others resisting. In this formal tension, Herzog proposes a radical redefinition of love: not as sentimental softness, but as a transformative, and often demanding, act of engagement.

Her participatory textile work, WOVEN TOGETHER, extends this inquiry into the social realm. Conceived at the Waking Life Festival, it is the result of collective labor, a literal weaving of shared remnants and experiences into a communal fabric. Here, Herzog articulates an ethics of complex connections: a recognition that autonomy and belonging are not opposites, but interwoven conditions of human life.

This tension between care and autonomy is further embodied in GROWTH, a site-specific paper sculpture that stretches upwards with precarious tenderness. Evoking both vulnerability and insistence, the figure inhabits space with a quiet, yet un-ignorable presence. Herzog's choice of humble materials - brown paper, asymmetrically molded - speaks to the provisional, ephemeral nature of becoming. It asks: how much space do we allow ourselves, and how much are we permitted to occupy within societal frameworks?

The personal, meanwhile, is refracted through a series of paintings that navigate intimate emotional terrains. In APART, Herzog captures the ache of partial presence, the impossibility of full communion even in proximity. COMFORT turns the gaze towards the sustaining power of female friendships, portraying tenderness not as fragility but as fierce resilience. Throughout these works, the body appears as both subject and metaphor, tracing the invisible forces of care, longing, resistance, and rest.

The exhibition culminates in the LEISURE REBEL series, a declaration of slowness and softness as acts of defiance. In a world increasingly dominated by extraction, speed, and productivity, Herzog asserts that rest and play are forms of protest - urgent, necessary, and deeply political.

RELATIONAL unfolds as a poetic and critical exploration of how we inhabit the world with and alongside others. Herzog's work resists closure; instead, it opens space - for reflection, for discomfort, for tenderness, and ultimately, for a more expansive understanding of what it means to be together.

Event Details:

Exhibition: RELATIONAL
 Artist: Viviane Herzog
 Curator: Aleksandra Cegielska

Opening Reception: April 30, 2025, 6:00 PM
 Exhibition Duration: 30.04 - 28.05. 2025

Location:

Eleven Ten Studio
 Feldbergstrasse 86, Basel
eleventenstudio.com

Opening Hours:
 Wednesday - Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm
 Saturday: 11 am - 4 pm

For further information or inquiries, please contact Eleven Ten Studio at contact@eleventenstudio.com