

Tamuna Chabashvili

My major source of inspiration is an image. For me image functions as a frame through which I approach certain events and experiences. Constructing visual and tactile narrative around a particular image enables me to translate and expand this 'frame' in to the physical space.

The driving force behind my individual practice is my background as an immigrant female artist and the inner necessity to interpret and narrate my life experiences through material form. I look at my body as an archive that keeps the traces of the past events. My working process is like an archeology inside my body memory tracing the imprints and making them tangible.

My works are based on utility objects that are deeply rooted in the local contexts and are made of fabric. The fragility of the fabric enables me to create intimate space where I can speak about the issues extremely vulnerable and personal to me.

Next to my Individual practice I am working in collaboration with the artist Adi Hollander and theoretician Vesna Madzosi under the name *Public Space With a Roof* (www.pswar.org). As an artists' initiative and former project space PSWAR was founded in 2003. Together we produce large-scale projects, blurring the borders between various roles artists are assumed to take today: artists-as-researchers, artists-as-activists, artists-as-producers, or artist-as-curators.

PSWAR projects are research-based and addressed various questions central in current art production: the possibility for collaboration and collective action, development of new exhibition formats, creation of platforms for intimate and individual experience of artworks, the use of others' artworks as ready-mades, and the possibilities for sensory activation of the spectators through changed parameters of the space. The essential part of each project is an installation, which functions as a public space, a framework for the whole project and an open laboratory. In here, different artworks, theories and ideas are encountered and viewed from new perspectives, reflecting the questions posed at the beginning of the project and simultaneously rejecting the position of closed and final answers.