


Involuntary Writing



Solo Exhibition by
Tao G. Vrhovec Sambolec
06.06 – 02.08.2026


BLANK
CANVAS

Involuntary Writing

Stains are radically specific - always stain-shaped. They might remind one of something [...] but they don't present a form, a coherent outline, a generic structure that can be abstracted and distilled; with a stain, form and content are the same thing.

Martin Arnold

While writing down a childhood memory about his inept handwriting, the wet ink from freshly written letters transferred onto the skin along the outer edge of the artist's hand, while some of it was pressed back onto the paper. Observing both the page and his hand, he became more fascinated by the visual presence of the stains than by the text itself. His attention shifted from letters and words as signifiers to the shapes and constellations of the stains as involuntary traces of writing.

Through processes of magnification and site-specific re-inscription, Sambolec works with these stains as autonomous visual forms. He explores their idiosyncratic, irregular shapes as visual elements that are neither illustrations, symbolic representations, nor abstractions, but incomprehensible forms that nevertheless radiate familiarity. The artist embraces this unobvious resonance by adopting a non-interpretative gaze—one closer to "listening to shapes" as an act of heightened attention and enthusiastic fascination, than looking at them as an act of interpretation.

Guided solely by sensitivity to their graphic presence, he makes site-specific constellations of selected enlarged stain particles

that are composed in close relation to their surroundings. Through these configurations the work reframes the involuntary traces of voluntary activity as visual encounters with a parallel world we unknowingly create while we engage in everyday activities.

The world we make without naming it.
A trace of touching nothingness.

Public Programme

Artist Sharing

6 June 2026, Saturday

4.30pm–5.30pm

Gilda (81, Lorong Soo Hong)

Limited space, registration required
by WhatsApp to +6016 246 6814.

Join us for an artist sharing session with Tao G. Vrhovec Sambolec, focusing on his practice in sound, new media and questions of contemporary mediation in relation to the sense of bodily presence. The session will further reflect on how these ideas take form in *Involuntary Writing*, his exhibition at Blank Canvas, followed by an exchange with KY Leong, founder of Blank Canvas.

Opening

6 June 2026, Saturday

5.30pm–7.30pm

6.30pm | Introduction

Artwork

Involuntary Writing

2026

Site-specific installation

1. Involuntary Writing (triptych)
2025
3 x A4 paper
1 digital print, 1 digital photography print,
1 rubberstamp ink print.
2. Site-specific mural
Various dimensions

Artist

Tao G. Vrhovec Sambolec



Portrait photo credit:
Photo by: Kathrine Uldbæk Nielsen

Tao G. Vrhovec Sambolec (SI/NL) is Amsterdam-based artist and researcher with a particular focus in sound, new media and questions of contemporary mediation in relation to the sense of bodily presence. His work consists of spatial and sound installations, events, and interventions where (un)mediated sonic events and visual traces act as central elements. These elements affectively evoke (human) bodily presence while sometimes signaling its physical absence. Addressing visitors through sound, tactility, kinetic movement, vibration, and increasingly through visual means, such experiential works explore how bodily presence can be felt and sensed besides interpretation and representation. Furthermore, the works investigate what kind of new poetics these re-articulations can form.

His works have been presented internationally, amongst others at Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia - Madrid, The Listening Biennial, Kunsthaus Graz, The National Gallery of Arts Tirana, Kapelica Gallery - Ljubljana, Errant Sound - Berlin, Aksioma Project Space - Ljubljana, Sonic

Acts Festival - Amsterdam, Sound Disobedience Festival - Ljubljana, Ars Electronica Festival, V2_Lab for the Unstable Media - Rotterdam, Museum of Contemporary Art Metelkova, +MSUM - Ljubljana, Cukrarna Gallery - Ljubljana, AV Festival - Newcastle Upon Tyne, ŠKUC Gallery - Ljubljana, State Museum of Contemporary Art - Thessaloniki, Gwangju Museum of Art - South Korea, Reseach Pavilion - Venice, Madrid Abierto, MuseumsQuartier - Vienna, Sound Gallery - Bergen.

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Behind the Exhibition

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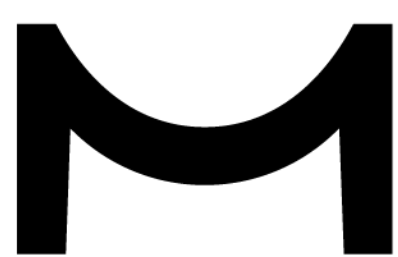
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fund

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Thursday–Monday | 12pm–7pm
Free Admission

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